

# What happens after my Carer's Needs Assessment?

The assessor will apply the national Carer's eligibility criteria to determine whether you have 'eligible needs' for support from your local authority. If you do, you will discuss with the assessor, a wide range of options to meet those needs. This might include the local authority providing services directly to you, to the person you care for or both; providing services through another organisation or making an application for a direct payment.

If you do not have eligible needs our Carer Support Coordinator will still be able to provide information and support about what's available to you in your area.

**"I welcome my Carer's Needs Assessment each year. It's the one time of year when I reflect on how my life has changed and what I am doing extra. Carers' Support East Kent comes up with suggestions and we look at any other support that might be available to me as a Carer"**



## Contact Us

Get in touch to arrange your Carer's Needs Assessment and to find out about the other information and support we provide for Carers.

- Phone: 0300 302 0061
- Email: support@carersek.org.uk
- Text: 07545 916214

**Carers' Support East Kent**



**Carers' Support East Kent**



## Carers' Needs Assessments:

### What are they and how do I get one?

If you are a Carer aged 18 or above and the person you look after is an adult, you are legally entitled to a Carer's Needs Assessment to identify and access the support you need as a Carer.

**This leaflet only covers Carers' Needs Assessments for Carers over 18 who look after an adult.**

[www.carersek.org.uk](http://www.carersek.org.uk)

Carers' Support East Kent is a charity that provides Carers with the information and support they need. Our services are available to people looking after a relative or friend, who due to physical or mental illness, age related difficulties, disability or an addiction, cannot manage without their support.

Innovation House, Discovery Park, Ramsgate Rd, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9ND  
| Registered charity number 1136904 | Company limited by guarantee number 7213672

On behalf of



A Network Partner of  
**CARERS TRUST**

**Kent Carers Matter**  
WORKING TOGETHER AS A VOICE FOR CARERS

# What is a Carer's Needs Assessment?

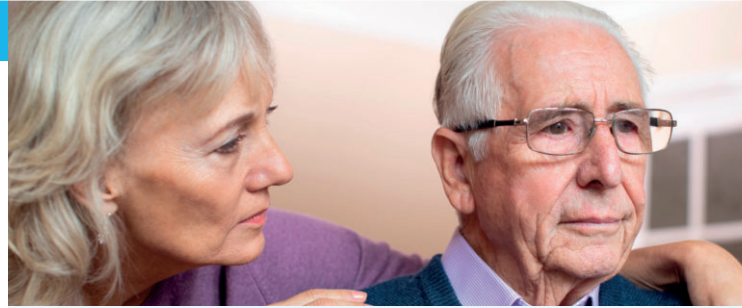
Many Carers find it easier to continue in their caring role if they can get some support.

Local councils can provide care and support for people who require care and their Carers. They make a decision about what they can provide, by carrying out a Carer's Needs Assessment.

If you are a Carer aged 18 or above and the person you look after is an adult, you are legally entitled to a Carer's Needs Assessment to identify and access the support you need as a Carer. Carers' Support East Kent carries these out on behalf of Kent County Council for Carers in East Kent.

Alternatively, you can choose to have a combined assessment with the person you care for. This is carried out by a social care practitioner working for Kent County Council.

*If you are a Carer under 18 or a Carer of someone who is not an adult, contact us and we'll give you information on how to get your assessment.*



## Who can have a Carer's Needs Assessment?

If you look after a relative or friend, who due to physical or mental illness, age related difficulties, disability or an addiction, cannot manage without your support, you are a Carer. (You may not think of yourself as a Carer.)

You can have a Carer's Needs Assessment regardless of:

- the amount or type of care you provide
- whether you live with the person you look after or not
- your financial means
- the amount of support you need as a Carer
- whether the person you look after has had a care assessment through Kent County Council.

If you are sharing caring responsibilities with one or more other people, you can each have a Carer's Needs Assessment.

# What does a Carer's Needs Assessment involve?

A Carer's Needs Assessment is about you and your physical, mental and emotional well-being. It's an informal discussion with one of our Carer Support Coordinators that can happen face to face or over the phone at a time that's convenient for you.

We'll talk to you about the impact caring has on your life, how you manage your caring role, any difficulties, what could improve things for you and the person you look after, whether you are willing to look after the person with care needs and if there might be circumstances where you would be unable to do so.

There is no financial means test as part of the assessment, but you might be asked about what impact caring is having on your finances. Having a Carer's Needs Assessment will not affect whether or not you receive a Carer's Allowance.

You do not need to prepare or bring any evidence with you, but you might want to think about any difficulties you are having and what would help your situation.

