

New Approach to Carers Assessment and Support

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Carers Space - 27th January 2022



**Nottinghamshire
County Council**

Reasons for change - Background

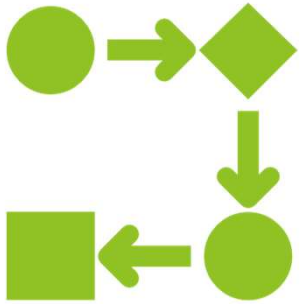
- Original assessment form - prescriptive contained 16 questions - the first 9 tested eligibility
- Fixed support offer - eligible needs identified, limited to a fixed one-off annual payment
- Support offer didn't meet identified needs of carers - inflexible
- Carers told us that the current support offer didn't meet their needs - consultation and engagement 2017/18
- Need to ensure full compliance with Care Act 2014
- New form and proposed support offer - engaged with carers from Carers Implementation Group
- Wrote to all carers again 12 months ago to seek their views on proposed changes - 63% of respondents agreed with proposals
- Appropriate use of available funds to support carers



New Carers Assessment Process and Support Offer

Overview of changes

- New 'Strengths- based' approach to Carer's assessment
- New 'conversation' style assessment form - Two key questions to determine eligibility for support by the worker
- **Support offer based on Identified Needs** - no longer a fixed amount 'one-off' payment but support identified from conversation and worker will identify and agree appropriate support that is required to meet the needs of the carer



The New Assessment Form



- ▶ Conversation ‘strengths- based’ approach
- ▶ Conversation will identify support needs and offer. Two key questions:
 1. What is happening with their caring role and the support they are currently providing?
 2. What would help the carer most now?
- ▶ Eligibility and support plan - worker to evidence and use professional judgement to make decision
- ▶ Additional flexibility- less prescriptive
- ▶ More personalised support offer for the carer



Support Offer

Provide flexibility to meet identified needs of carers



A 'one-off' personal budget payment offered where this is the most appropriate option to meet needs



Worker will decide and agree how much the personal budget should be for 'one-off' support



NHS Short Breaks continue to be available where a need for breaks is identified

