

COMMISSIONING FOR CARERS PRINCIPLES

Principle 10 - Support carers to access local resources

Feedback from carers highlighted the following as some of the key changes they would value most:

- Ensure information is shared with me and other professionals
- Signpost information for me and help link professionals together

These were identified as being important to enable carers to maintain their own health and wellbeing and continue to support the person they look after with confidence¹.

(Select one colour only. Rate where red lowest-----and green highest)

How assured are you that providers routinely signpost to carer services, websites and professionals providing support as appropriate?

□	□	□
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What could you do to improve your rating? -----

How assured are you that young carers supporting someone with a stigmatised condition (mental ill health or substance misuse) have access to information and specialised support?

□	□	□
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What could you do to improve your rating? -----

Ask Yourself...

- Do you have relevant and appropriate services for all carers?
- Do your commissioned services promote the uptake of Carers Assessments?
- How do you promote services which are available?
- Have you considered commissioning a guide to local and national services? Are you aware of the [RCGP Caring for Carers Hub](#)?
- Is this built into current contract monitoring processes as a local KPI? For example all carers offered signposting service, additional information, percentage of carers with an information prescription.

Good Practice examples

- Lincolnshire Caring at the end of life- An evaluation by the University of Lincoln is currently underway, which will inform the commissioning process for a carers' hub in 2015. Early findings will be fed into the Lincolnshire County Council commissioning process from Sept/Oct 2014. http://www.nhs.uk/mediaservices/2563009/carers_lincolnshire.pdf
- Somerset Partnership NHS Trust – A Trust wide approach to meet the needs for mental Health carers- using the Triangle of Care. http://www.nhs.uk/mediaservices/2535977/carers_case_study_-_somerset_partnership.pdf

References:

¹ NHS England Commitment to Carers, April 2014