

# Commissioning Strategy for Carers to 2026 Consultation Questionnaire

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## Introduction

A carer is someone of any age who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend, who is ill, frail, disabled, or has mental health or substance misuse problems.

– The Princess Royal Trust for Carers

To help us commission the services which will best meet the needs of carers of all ages in Birmingham, we would like to ask you some questions.

The personal information on this form is protected by law. This means that:

- we must keep the information safe;
- we can only use it for the reason given on the form;
- we can only share it with people who need to know it;
- we only keep it for as long as we have to, and
- you have the right to see the information we are keeping about you.

Birmingham City Council has a privacy statement. We will process any personal data given in relation this consultation for the purposes of:

- evaluating the answers to the returned questionnaire, and
- contacting you with more information if you have asked for it.

In addition, we will hold and process your personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Our full privacy notice is available from [www.birmingham.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/privacy)

**Please complete the questionnaire and return to the address on the back page before Sunday 24 June 2012.**

For more information on Commissioning Strategy for Consultation to 2026:

phone 0121 303 5154

email [carers2026@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:carers2026@birmingham.gov.uk)

web  
[www.birmingham.gov.uk/carers2026](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/carers2026)

## Section 1 – About you

Please tick the boxes that best describe your interest in the consultation.

- ☐ a young carer under 18 caring for an adult
- ☐ a carer
- ☐ a parent/carers of a disabled child who is under 18 years of age
- ☐ a neighbour or friend carer
- ☐ another type of carer
- ☐ a professional
- ☐ a person who has a service provided by Birmingham City Council
- ☐ an organisation

### Questions for carers only

To help us commission the services which will best meet the priorities that have been identified by the Birmingham Carers' Partnership Board, we would like to ask you some questions about the support you receive in a caring role.

These questions refer to the section 'About You' in the Commissioning Strategy for Carers to 2026 Consultation document.

1. In the last twelve months, what types of support have you found most valuable in your caring role?

If this support was provided by an organisation, please could you tell us who it was?

2. Have you used a direct payment to purchase care or support in the last twelve months? (A direct payment is money we can give you to help you buy the care and support you need, instead of us arranging the services for you).

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

Don't know

If 'Yes', please state what care or support you purchased using your direct payment?

**3. What services could improve your life as a carer today?**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early recognition of carer's role              | <input type="checkbox"/> Flexibility and support from employers      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signposting to support                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Choice of reliable, high-quality services   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early support                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Home-based services                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information about services                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Community-based services                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy support                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency services                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carers support groups                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Personalised support                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friendship and activity groups                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Care options for the person being cared for |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to I.T.                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Respite/short breaks                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to training to assist with caring role  | <input type="checkbox"/> Support with education and training         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to equipment to assist with caring role | <input type="checkbox"/> Counselling support                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support to gain employment                     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):                        |  |

**4. What services could improve your life as a carer in the future?**

## Section 2 – Outcomes and priorities

### Outcomes

Five national outcomes for carers are listed in the Department of Health's Strategy 'Carer at the heart of 21st century families and communities'. Two of the outcomes have been adopted by the Birmingham Carers' Partnership Board and three have been slightly amended so they are right for Birmingham carers. The Birmingham outcomes apply to **ALL** types of carers and embrace everyone's needs and circumstances, including their age, gender, disability, religion, race and sexual orientation.

1. Do you agree or disagree with each of the proposed Birmingham outcomes as developed by the Birmingham Carer's Partnership Board?

**Outcome 1** – Carers will be respected as expert care partners and will have access to the integrated and personalised services they need to support them in a caring role.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

Please tell us your reasons

**Outcome 2** – Carers will be able to have a life of their own alongside their caring role.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

Please tell us your reasons

**Outcome 3** – Carers will be supported to help develop a range of skills so that they are not forced into financial hardship by their caring role and are supported to lead fulfilling lives.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

Please tell us your reasons

**Outcome 4** – Carers will be supported to stay mentally and physically well and will be treated with dignity and respect.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

Please tell us your reasons

**Outcome 5** – Children and young people with caring responsibilities will have the support they need to learn, develop, thrive and enjoy positive childhoods.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

Please tell us your reasons

## Priorities

Four national priorities are listed in the Department of Health's Strategy 'recognised, valued and supported: Next steps for the Carers Strategy'. The Birmingham Carers' Partnership Board proposes to broadly support the national framework but wishes to split Priority 1 into two parts so that it is right for Birmingham carers. The Birmingham priorities apply to **ALL** types of carers and embrace everyone's needs and circumstances, including their age, gender, disability, religion, race and sexual orientation.

2. Do you agree or disagree with each of the proposed Birmingham priorities as developed by the Birmingham Carer's Partnership Board?

**Priority 1a** – Supporting those with caring responsibilities to identify themselves as carers at an early stage.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

**Priority 1b** – Recognise the value of their contribution and involve them from the outset both in designing local care provision and in planning individual care packages.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

**Priority 2** – Enabling those with caring responsibilities to fulfil their educational and employment potential.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

**Priority 3** – Personalised support both for carers and those they support, enabling them to have a family and community life.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

**Priority 4** – Supporting carers to remain mentally and physically well.

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree
- ☐ I do not have a view

Any comments about the proposed priorities

## Local initiatives and actions

Under each of the priorities, the Birmingham Carers' Partnership Board proposes some local initiatives to be achieved in Birmingham, over the coming years. These local initiatives apply to **ALL** types of carers and embrace everyone's needs and circumstances, including their age, gender, disability, religion, race and sexual orientation.

3. Do you agree or disagree with each of the local initiatives proposed Birmingham outcomes as developed by the Birmingham Carer's Partnership Board?

**Priority 1a** – Supporting those with caring responsibilities to identify themselves as carers at an early stage.

- GPs to take lead on early recognition of carers and signpost and support accordingly.
  - ☐ I strongly agree
  - ☐ I agree
  - ☐ I disagree
  - ☐ I strongly disagree
  - ☐ I do not have a view
- More media coverage for helping people recognise themselves as carers.
  - ☐ I strongly agree
  - ☐ I agree
  - ☐ I disagree
  - ☐ I strongly disagree
  - ☐ I do not have a view
- Greater number of outlets for information and advocacy.
  - ☐ I strongly agree
  - ☐ I agree
  - ☐ I disagree
  - ☐ I strongly disagree
  - ☐ I do not have a view



**Priority 1b** – Recognise the value of their contribution and involve them from the outset both in designing local care provision and in planning individual care packages.

- Carers need to have opportunity to attend forums/meetings/support groups.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

**Priority 2** – Enabling those with caring responsibilities to fulfil their educational and employment potential.

- All young carers of school age to have access to technology at home for their learning and friendships.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- Help carers find and take up learning (including IT training) to fit in with their caring role.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- Make sure carers looking for, or in work, can get flexible hours and help to keep their jobs.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

**Priority 3** – Personalised support both for carers and those they support, enabling them to have a family and community life.

- Access to a choice of reliable and good quality home and community based services including short breaks (respite), available routinely as well as in an emergency situation.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- Provision of additional personalised support for carers caring for someone through end of life.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- Good communication between health, social care and other relevant agencies so that all have access to the same info.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

**Priority 4 – Supporting carers to remain mentally and physically well.**

- Carers can get emotional support by sharing experiences with other carers in a range of ways such as support groups, internet forums, by phone.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- Help to set up and run carer's support groups.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- All local communities to be encouraged to recognise and support carers.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- Care options for the cared for person so the carer can get a short break, including respite.

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

☐ I do not have a view

- Encourage and support carers to take part in activities to improve their health and quality of life and plan for the future.

☐

I strongly agree

☐

I agree

☐

I disagree

☐

I strongly disagree

☐

I do not have a view

- Reduce stress through training for carers in aspects of care.

☐

I strongly agree

☐

I agree

☐

I disagree

☐

I strongly disagree

☐

I do not have a view

Are there any other local initiatives that you would like to see added?

☐

Yes

☐

No

If 'Yes', please state

## Your top three priorities

Everyone realises money is very stretched, whether at home or in the public or voluntary sector. Therefore we must make sure that we concentrate on achieving the things that are most important to carers and we would like to know what you think we should try and achieve over the next two years.

4. Using the list of local initiatives or any of those that you might have added, what are the 3 most important local initiatives to you, which you would like prioritised over the next two years?

Below please make only one tick in each of the priority columns, with 'Priority 1' being the most important to you. Only tick one priority in the 'Priority 1' column, one priority in the 'Priority 2' column and one priority in the 'Priority 3 column'. Please note there are priorities listed on page 13 and 14 of this form. If your priority is not listed please write your own priorities (up to three) on page 14.

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
GPs to take lead on early recognition of carers and signpost and support accordingly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More media coverage for helping people recognise themselves as carers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Greater number of outlets for information and advocacy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carers need to have opportunity to attend forums/meetings/support groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All young carers of school age to have access to technology at home for their learning and friendships.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Help carers find and take up learning (Including IT training) to fit in with their caring role.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Make sure carers looking for, or in work, can get flexible hours and help to keep their jobs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a choice of reliable and good quality home and community based services including short breaks (respite), available routinely as well as in an emergency situation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of additional personalised support for carers caring for someone through end of life.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good communication between health, social care and other relevant agencies so that all have access to the same info.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Carers can get emotional support by sharing experiences with other carers in a range of ways such as support groups, internet forums, by phone.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Help to set up and run carer's support groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All local communities to be encouraged to recognise and support carers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Care options for the cared for person so the carer can get a short break, including respite.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage and support carers to take part in activities to improve their health and quality of life and plan for the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduce stress through training for carers in aspects of care.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please state <div></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please state <div></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please state <div></div>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### More details about you

This section is optional. If you choose to fill it in, it will help us get a better understanding of the needs of carers in Birmingham.

Please tick the box that best describes your interest in the consultation.

- ☐ a young carer under 18 caring for an adult
- ☐ a carer
- ☐ a parent/carers of a disabled child who is under 18 years of age
- ☐ a neighbour or friend carer
- ☐ another type of carer
- ☐ a professional
- ☐ a person who has a service provided by Birmingham City Council

**Location**

**Postcode**

**Age**

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 9   | <input type="checkbox"/> 50 to 54          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 to 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55 to 59          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 to 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 60 to 64          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 to 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65 to 69          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25 to 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 70 to 74          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30 to 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75 to 79          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35 to 39 | <input type="checkbox"/> 80 to 84          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40 to 44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 85 to 89          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45 to 49 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

## Disability

Do you have any of the following long standing conditions? (more than one answer is acceptable)

- ☐ Deafness or severe hearing impairment
- ☐ Blindness or severe visual impairment
- ☐ A condition which is substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying
- ☐ A learning difficulty
- ☐ A long-standing illness
- ☐ None of these

Does a longstanding health problem or a disability mean you have substantial difficulties doing day-to-day activities?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

## Gender

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Transgender



**Ethnic group** (please tick one only)

**Asian or Asian British**

- ☐ Bangladeshi
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Pakistani
- ☐ Any other Asian background

**Mixed / multiple ethnic groups**

- ☐ Asian and White
- ☐ Black African and White
- ☐ Black Caribbean and White
- ☐ Any other mixed / multiple ethnic background

**White**

- ☐ English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Gypsy / Romany / Irish Traveller
- ☐ Other White background

**Black/African/Caribbean/Black British**

- ☐ African
- ☐ Caribbean
- ☐ Any other Black / African / Caribbean / Black British background

**Other ethnic group**

- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Any other ethnic group

☐ Prefer not to say

**Religion** (please tick one only)

☐ Buddhist

☐ Christian

☐ Hindu

☐ Jewish

☐ Muslim

☐ Sikh

☐ No religion

☐ Any other religion. Please state:

☐ Prefer not to say

**Sexual identity** (please tick one only)

☐ Bisexual

☐ Gay or Lesbian

☐ Heterosexual or straight

☐ Other

☐ Prefer not to say

## **Thank you for taking the time to be part of this consultation.**

### **Talk to us.**

The following two questions are not part of this consultation. Your responses above will remain anonymous.

I would be interested in giving my views at a later stage. I understand this might be responding to questionnaires or invitations to meetings to talk about things. Please tick one box only below.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Would you like to be on our Carers mailing list to receive information from time to time? Please tick one box only below.

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you ticked 'Yes' to **either** of the last two questions, how would you like us to contact you? Please tick all that apply.

☐ Email

☐ Post

### **Here are my contact details.**

Name:

Home address:

Email:

**ACF0021**  
**March 2012**

For more information on  
Commissioning Strategy  
for Consultation to  
2026:

phone **0121 303 5154**

email **carers2026@**  
**birmingham.gov.uk**

web  
**www.birmingham.gov.**  
**uk/carers2026**

## **Returning this questionnaire**

Please return this questionnaire by post before  
**Sunday 24 June 2012** using the enclosed FREEPOST  
envelope.

If you do not have a FREEPOST envelope, please return to:

**FREEPOST RSTH-GAKE-LCKA**  
**Carers Consultation 2012**  
**Customer Care and Citizen Involvement Team**  
**6th Floor, Louisa Ryland House**  
**44 Newhall Street**  
**Birmingham**  
**B3 3PL**

If you use this full address you do not need to use a stamp.

Website: **www.birmingham.gov.uk/carers2026**

## **Completing the questionnaire on the internet**

Please note you can also complete this questionnaire on  
the internet using an online survey. To find out how, visit:

**www.birmingham.gov.uk/carers2026**

## **Any questions**

If you have any questions about completing or returning  
this questionnaire:

Phone: **0121 303 5154**

Email: **carers2026@birmingham.gov.uk**

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Directorate. Please do  
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