

ideas tree

New Deal for Carers – your voice counts



**Please write down
up to three ideas in
the spaces provided**

To rate an idea, please write in a number from 1 to 5, where 5 is very good and 1 is poor, in the 'Rate this idea' box.

My idea is ...

Rate this idea

My idea is ...

Rate this idea

My idea is ...

Rate this idea

ideas tree

New Deal for Carers - your voice counts

Please post this to the freepost address below before 30 September 2007

FREEPOST RRGR-HZTK-UULT
Opinion Leader Research Ltd
4th Floor Holborn Gate
26 Southampton Buildings
London
WC2A 1AH

*If you require additional information about this pack, please contact Neil Samson at Opinion Leader:
Tel 020 7861 3203 or
email nsamson@opinionleader.co.uk*

*This is part of a wider consultation which will end in October 2007.
Email julian.oliver@dh.gsi.gov.uk if you represent an organisation and would like to give a corporate response.*



© Crown copyright 2007
283503 1p 65k Aug 07 (CWP)

Produced by COI for the Department of Health

www.dh.gov.uk/publications

ideas tree

New Deal for Carers – your voice counts

Dear carer/project leader

Opinion Leader, an independent research company, has been commissioned to conduct a wide-ranging consultation to ensure that carers' voices are at the heart of the Government's New Deal for Carers. As part of this consultation, we have set up an online ideas tree where adult carers can tell us what would make a positive difference to their life as a carer. This can be accessed at www.newdealforcarers.org. We are also sending out toolkits like this which can be used by individual, or small groups of, carers.

How it works

Individual carers: Please write down up to three ideas in the spaces provided in this leaflet (ignore the 'Rate this idea' boxes) and fill in the questionnaire. Tear of this slip and send to the freepost address provided.

Project leaders: Please explain to the group that the Government wants to hear their ideas on how to improve carers' lives. This exercise involves each carer in the group completing the ideas tree page and the questionnaire. Ask them to write down up to three ideas on their ideas tree, stick it on the wall and then let other carers rate their ideas. There is space under each idea for carers to rate each others' ideas on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is very good and 1 is poor. At the end of the exercise send all the completed forms to the address provided.

The 'big' question we would like your opinion on is:

What would make a positive difference or improve your life as a carer?

Can't think where to start?

Here are some questions to help you think of some ideas:

- What helped you when you started caring and what changes would help a new carer?
- What different services or support would you like the person you care for to have?
- What different services or support would help you care more comfortably?
- Who do you want to value you as a carer and how?
- What money issues are most important to you?
- What could change to help you do things outside of caring (work, education, leisure)?
- What about issues to do with transport?
- Is there any training that you think would improve your life as a carer?
- What would help you improve your own health?

Please could you answer the following questions so that we can understand more about the type of people who are taking part. Your details will not be passed on to anyone else.

1. Are you:

- Male
- Female

2. Please could you let us know your age

3. Please could you let us know which best describes you: (tick as many as apply to you)

- Carer for an older person
- Parent of a disabled child
- Carer for an adult with a physical disability
- Carer for an adult with a sensory impairment
- Carer for an adult with mental health issues
- Carer for an adult with learning disabilities
- Carer for an adult dealing with substance misuse
- Health or social care professional working with or on behalf of carers
- Non-carer
- Other (please give details below)

4. Approximately how many hours of care do you provide per week?

- Less than 20 hours
- 21–49 hours
- 50 or more hours

5. How long have you been a carer for?

- Less than a year 6–10 years
- 1–5 years Over 10 years

6. Do you have a:

- Physical impairment
- Sensory impairment
- Mental health condition
- Learning disability/difficulty
- Long-standing illness
- Other

7. Are you:

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Heterosexual
- I do not wish to disclose my sexual orientation

8. Please could you let us know which best describes you: (tick as many as apply to you)

- White British
- White Irish
- White Eastern European
- Any other white background
- Mixed – white and black Caribbean
- Mixed – white and black African
- Mixed – white and Asian
- Any other mixed background
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Any other Asian background
- Caribbean
- African
- Any other black background
- Chinese
- Any other (please give details below)

9. Religious beliefs

- Atheism
- Christianity
- Buddhism
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Judaism
- Sikhism
- Other
- I do not wish to disclose my religion/beliefs