City Hospice
Caring for Cardiff

Benefits & Financial Support if you are caring for a loved one

This leaflet contains a general overview of benefits and financial support you are entitled to if you are a carer. For more specific queries please contact our Welfare Rights team.



Carers Allowance

This comes with its own criteria of caring for someone for more than 35 hours a week.

You must be under state pension age.

You can work and claim this benefit BUT there is an earnings limit of £139.00 (gross) a week that applies. You can claim this benefit if on sick leave and receiving just Statutory Sick Pay. You can claim this benefit if you are retired and receiving just an occupational/private pension.

This is currently paid at £76.75 a week.

If you did claim Carers Allowance it is a taxable income and could impact your current benefits if you claim Universal Credit/income related ESA or Income Support as it is treated as income.

A Carers entitlement to the above income will depend on whether the person they care for is in receipt of the following Disability Benefits at the rates stated:

Disability Living Allowance (For those under 65) a Middle or High Rate of Care
Attendance Allowance (For over 65's) at any rate.

Breaks in Caring

You are entitled to have a break in caring of up to 4 weeks without payments being impacted. It would be worth updating the Carers allowance department should there be permanent changes such as the person you care for being in hospital for more than 28 days or permanently moving to a care home.

Carers Premium

This is additional amounts paid to carers who are also claiming means-tested benefits. If you are claiming Universal Credit even as a couple with the person you care for it would be beneficial for you to update them with a change of circumstance of your caring responsibilities to have the increase added to your claim.

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