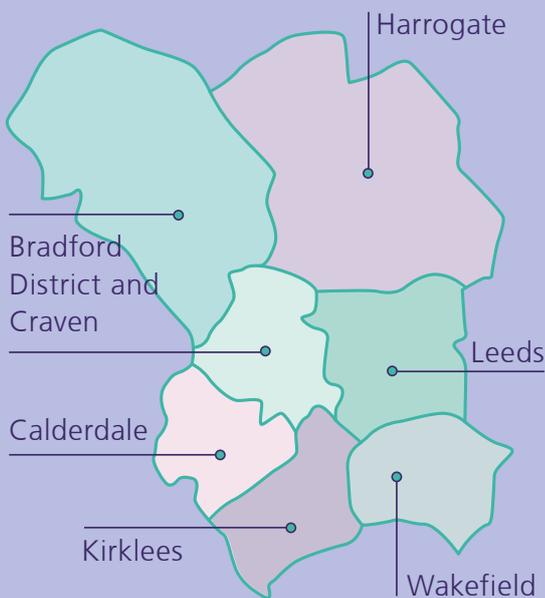




Proud to be the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership

Committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people living in:



- > Working to improve people's health with and for them
- > Improving people's experience of healthcare
- > Making every penny in the pound count
- > Working to keep people well and make life better for 2.6 million people living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate.



Supporting 260,000 carers across West Yorkshire and Harrogate

Our ambition

The vast majority of the time care is provided behind closed doors, in people's homes, and is largely invisible to the general public. Now in the midst of the coronavirus crisis, Carers UK carried out an online survey and heard from over 5,000 carers or former carers. [Forgotten families in the coronavirus outbreak \(April 2020\)](#) reports on the experience of Carers during COVID-19.

There are an estimated 260,000 unpaid carers living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate, including children and young people caring for parents with long-term health conditions. Being a carer can be stressful and have a major impact on your health, relationships, education and employment. We are working hard to ensure that identifying carers and supporting them is further embedded within our work.



What we are doing



Working alongside local partners, West Yorkshire and Harrogate have already taken significant steps to address some of the concerns highlighted in this report. Including:

- The development of a 'plan B' document to support carers to plan for the event of contracting the virus or being unable to care for a short period
- The development of discharge packs containing a carer's ID letter, basic information on staying safe at home during the outbreak and advice for carers during the COVID 19 epidemic
- A suite of online resources to support the mental wellbeing of carers
- Continued work alongside voluntary and community organisations to ensure that carers are identified and linked into local and national schemes including the NHS volunteer responders service.

What next?

In addition we are also looking to strengthen areas where a local need has been identified, these include:

- Information and advice for carers looking after a loved one coming towards the end of their life
- Resources to support the dispelling of fears within the carer's community and how they continue to best utilise health and care services during the COVID-19 epidemic
- Identifying digital resources to support young carers.



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A partnership made up of the NHS, local councils, care providers, Healthwatch, community and carers organisations.

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West Yorkshire and Harrogate
Health and Care Partnership

