

The Care Bill

A family carer perspective



The Care Bill

Life as a carer

- Bereavement
- Anger
- Confusion
- Gratitude
- Despair
- Déjà vu
- As well as daily surprise and joy for many of us

Dame Philippa Russell

Standing Commission - Carers

- **“Early identification and support.**
- **“Carers and users have equal rights to assessments and care/support plans.** We are first EU nation to formally recognise carers’ rights as distinct and of equal value compared to those they support.

Dame Philippa Russell

Standing Commission - Carers

- “A new concept of **FAMILY CARER** and **WHOLE FAMILY ASSESSMENT** (if all parties agree)!
- “Removal of requirement for carer to be providing **substantial levels of care**.

Dame Philippa Russell

Standing Commission - Carers

Particular challenges

- **Access to good information and advice;**
- **Availability of advocacy and brokerage when required;**

Dame Philippa Russell

Standing Commission - Carers

Particular challenges

- **Help with financial and administration of budgets;**
- **Workforce: Shortage of skilled Carers/PAs.**

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- **Social care not necessarily free even if needs assessed and person or carer eligible.**
- **“80% of care is currently provided through the family.** Carers cannot be charged for their relative’s care and support.
- **“Carers estimated to save Councils/NHS up to £119b a year – supporting their role, Co-producing planning and best use of resources, is an investment in the future!**

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- How do we make sure that the Bill is implemented ?
- As a family carer - get involved
- As a professional – ensure independent support for carers to be represented

