



www.birminghamcarershub.org.uk

Hello Partners!

This is our first dedicated e-bulletin for Forward Carers Consortium Partners..and the start of regular communication to keep you up to speed with all things Forward Carers.

Take a look at our website!

We have now gone live with a revamped [website](#). What do you think? We hope you find it a a lot fresher and in line with our shared vision of promoting carer wellbeing, whilst selling the benefits of registering with the Hub. There are much stronger calls to action with big, bright buttons to encourage carers (and professionals) to register with the Hub. Some areas are still under development, including carers support groups and an info portal.

We have also launched our online marketplace where eligible carers can access a virtual 'free' £150 voucher to spend on wellbeing, this is under the 'Time for Me' tab. Thanks to those of you who have developed, and are now advertising, products and services, including Out of School activities which will go live on the website very soon.

Carers Celebration Event - 11th June

You'll be aware of our Carer Celebration event in partnership with the Symphony Hall Foyer on 11th June during national carers week. We're really looking forward to seeing all Consortium partners there! During the run up to the event we'll be using the twitter hashtags [#carersweek](#) and [#brumcelebratescarers](#) along with the Symphony Hall's twitter tag [@THSHBirmingham](#) Be sure to include all these # in your tweets...or simply [click here](#) for a ready-made tweet - help spread the word!

The event is about celebrating our City's carers and the contribution they make to family life. As well as promoting the amazing support available to carers, it's also an opportunity to put Birmingham Carers Hub on the map and really get the word out there. We plan to register all carers on entry to the event, so no need to worry about registering carers on the day, leaving you free to promote your carer support groups and wellbeing services.

Contact Teams Up and Running

A big thank you to those of you now operating Carer Contact Teams on behalf of the Birmingham Carers Hub. Many of you will be recording activity on the new Case Management System following the training and early feedback is very positive. This is an exciting phase for Birmingham Carers Hub as we begin to

reach out to new people in caring roles through our partnership across our communities.

We achieved our first year target of registering 10,000 carers, however our year 2 target is 17,500 and we will also see the introduction of payment by results linked to improving carer outcomes. If you have not yet participated in the database training and/or want to operate as a Carer Contact Team, contact our Prog. Manager Dionne Williams dionne.williams@birminghamcarershub.org.uk

A final note...

Robin Miller from University of Birmingham is finalising his evaluation on Forward Carers which will be available July 2015. However in his interim update presentation in March, Robin highlighted three challenges we need to consider in order to become a high performing organisation.

The first is 'governance'. The expectation of the City Council is that the Carers Hub contract is novated to Forward Carers in early 2016. This means us reviewing our company status so that it remains effective for all stakeholders. The review will encompass our corporate tax and VAT position as well as an appropriate Board membership.

The second challenge of 'communication' is a difficult one to get right but hopefully you'll see this e-bulletin as addressing the issue in part; and thirdly, marketing and selling our offer which the website and carer celebration on the 11th is the start of. The last slide from Robin's presentation had the greatest resonance with me personally.....*'If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.'*

Thanks all for your support and lets go far together!

Simon Fenton
Chief Executive
Forward Carers



[Forward this email](#)

STAY SUPPORTED

