

Carers Rights in Welfare & Finances



Caring can impact your income and financial and practical help is available. You have the right to:

Financial support (where eligible)

If you care for someone for at least 35 hours a week and they receive a qualifying benefit, you may be eligible for **Carer's Allowance**. This is to support with additional costs associated with unpaid care and currently stands at £83.30 per week. If you're applying for Carer's Allowance, there's also an earnings cap: you must not earn more than £196 per week (after deductions like tax, National Insurance, and some allowable expenses).

In certain circumstances, you may also be entitled to reductions in **Council Tax**

Attendance Allowance is to help to pay for personal care for those that have reached the State Pension age and have a disability or illness that makes it hard to look after themselves. Therefore this may be a benefit that would be **granted to the person you care for but can contribute towards your support.**

You may qualify for **Carer's Credit** if you're caring for someone for at least 20 hours a week. This credit helps fill gaps in your National Insurance record, ensuring you don't lose out on your State Pension.

For more information about benefits and financial support visit www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/help-for-carers

A carers card

This is a **nationally recognised ID card** across the UK specifically for carers. It costs £8 for 2 years and gives you access to lots of benefits and support including free companion tickets at 500+ UK venues and discounts at 300+ brands. www.carerscarduk.co.uk

The right to advocacy

As a carer, you have the right to advocacy. An advocate can help ensure that your concerns, and those of the person you care for, are heard. They can support you in understanding your rights and legal processes, and help you access services and benefits. Advocates are independent and confidential, and can speak up on your behalf when needed. For carer advocacy in Middlesbrough or Redcar & Cleveland contact either **Teesside Mind** (www.teessidemind.org.uk) or **People First** (www.wearepeoplefirst.co.uk)

www.wecareyoucare.info
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**WE CARE
YOU CARE.**