



What is the Carers Card?

The Carers Card will be available to unpaid carers in East Sussex as from April 1st 2012, and is a new scheme being piloted by East Sussex Adult Social Care and supported by Care for the Carers'.

- *A carer is someone who provides regular and substantial care to someone at home; this could be a partner, family member, neighbour or friend.*
- *Currently, there are approximately 50,993 unpaid carers in East Sussex, with 8,767 of them located in Eastbourne alone.*

The idea of the Carers' Card is to support carers to have a life outside of and beyond caring, by increasing access to local businesses, amenities and leisure opportunities.

Carers may also receive services such as respite and a carer's grant, which they can use to take time out from their busy full time caring role for themselves, and to ultimately provide improved care for their loved one.

The Carers Card will contain the name of the carer, and ID photograph, an individual reference number and an expiry date; the Carers Card can only be used by the Carers' Card holder and cannot be transferred to another user.

The Carers Card pilot will run for a period of 12 months in Eastbourne and surrounding areas. Carers can use this card in local shops and businesses who have signed up to the scheme, to receive a small discount/offer.

Why would I want to support this scheme?

If you wish to participate in the pilot, you will have your business advertised for free to carers in East Sussex through Adult Social Care and the Care for the Carers website, making them aware of your business and the discount/concession that you are offering.

There is no cost for participating in this pilot and it is intended that this will be rolled out across East Sussex in the future; however we require a commitment to support the Carers Card scheme for the duration of the pilot.

If circumstances change, you may withdraw your business at any time from the pilot.

Most of all, you will be doing something positive to support the many carers in your local community.

If you are interested in taking part in this scheme or wish to know more about Care for the Carers, please contact:

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