Carer Project – Grants Programme 2023-2025
(Tranche 1)

Forward Carers CIC

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We are Forward Carers CIC

We're an award-winning, not-for-profit Social Enterprise established in 2014. We're on a mission to create Carer Friendly Communities, so unpaid Carers can thrive in all areas of their life and work.

Creating Carer Friendly Communities

How we create Carer Friendly Communities

Contracted services:
Delivering local authority contracted services in partnership with VCSEs (including Carer Projects grants scheme)

Commercial services (100% profits reinvested to mission):

- Carer Friendly ID and Discount Card, and hybrid support
- Carer Friendly Business scheme
- Carer Friendly Workplace programme
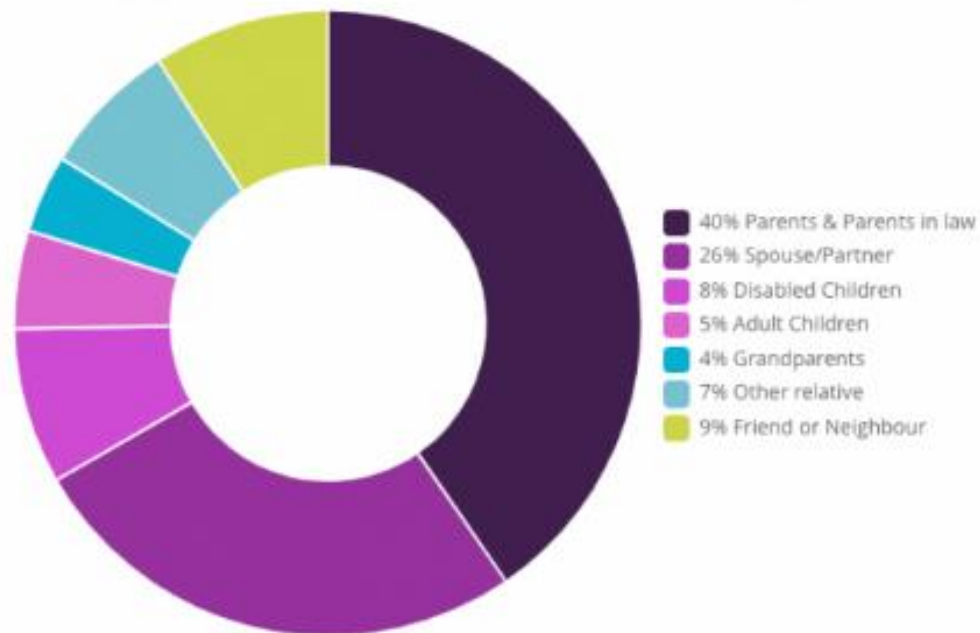- Carer Friendly Business Awards

Who is an unpaid Carer?

A carer is anyone, including children and adults, who looks after a family member, partner or friend who needs help because of their illness, frailty, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction and cannot cope without their support. The care they give is unpaid. (NHS England)

forward carers

Who do carers care for?

- 40% Parents & Parents in law
- 26% Spouse/Partner
- 8% Disabled Children
- 5% Adult Children
- 4% Grandparents
- 7% Other relative
- 9% Friend or Neighbour

What does a Carer do?

Communication Care

Emotional Care

Personal Care

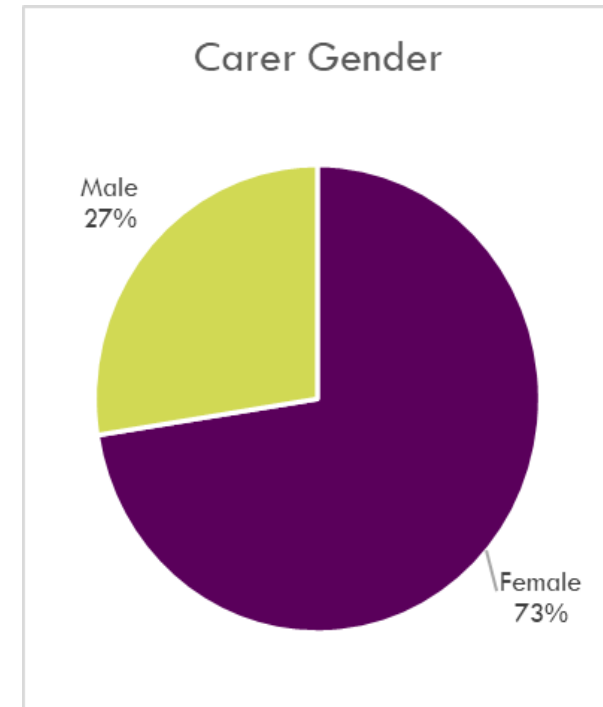Health Care

What Carers Do

Domestic Care

Financial Care

Physical Care
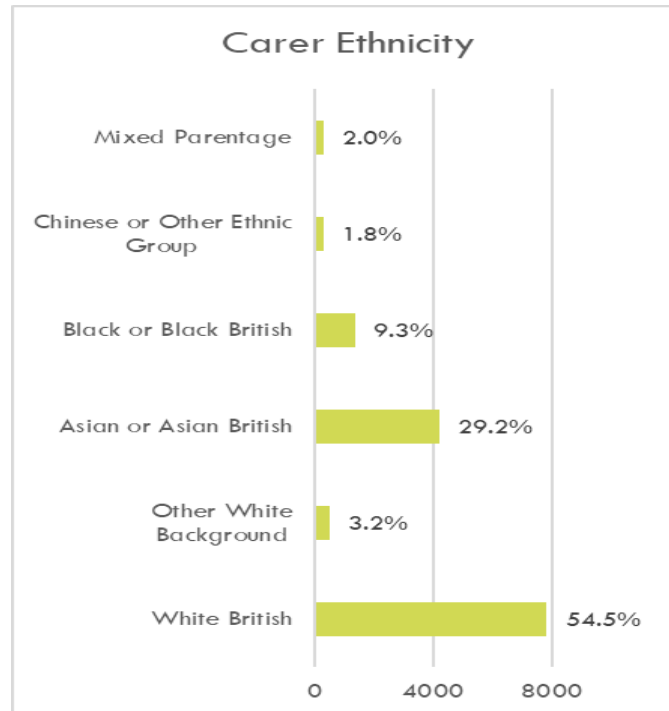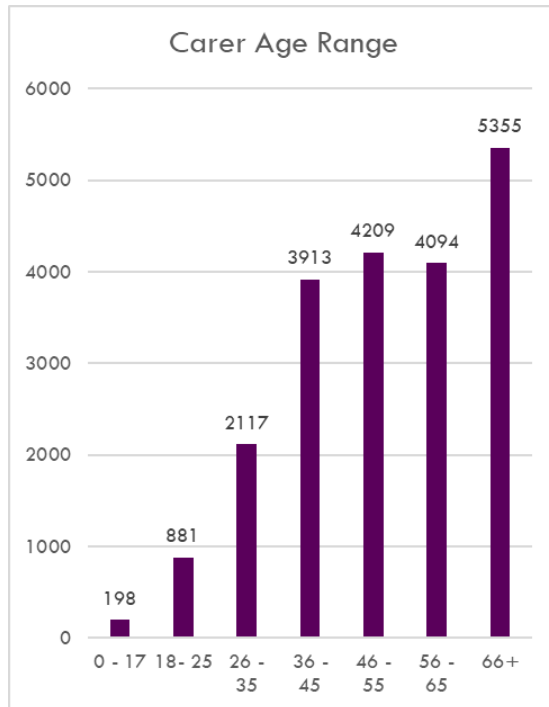
Carer Need

- Census 2021: 8.5% of Birmingham population unpaid carers

- Or, 91,469 Carers in total

- 20,875 (or 23%) Carers registered with Birmingham Carer's Hub

Carer Age Range

Age	Count
0 - 17	198
18 - 25	881
26 - 35	2117
36 - 45	3913
46 - 55	4209
56 - 65	4094
66+	5355

Carer Ethnicity

Mixed Parentage	2.0%
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	1.8%
Black or Black British	9.3%
Asian or Asian British	29.2%
Other White Background	3.2%
White British	54.5%

Carer Gender

Male 27%
Female 73%

Cared-for Need

Most Common Disabilities	Number of Cared Fors
Long term condition/ Chronic Illness	3781
Physical Disability	3198
Autism/ ADHD/ Asperger's	2352
Dementia/Alzheimer's	2252
Mental Health Illness	2145
Learning Disability / Difficulty	1686

High level Cared for condition by which the carer is providing care and support (Where Provided)	Count
Learning Disability Support	2546
Mental Health Support	2083
Personal Care	4365
Physical Support	3583
Sensory Support	322
Social Support	582
Support with Memory and Cognition	1850

Cared For Age

Cared For Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Percentage
Mixed Parentage	2.6%
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	3.0%
Black or Black British	8.9%
Asian or Asian British	31.9%
Other White Background	3.0%
White British	50.7%

Cared For Gender

Male 50% Female 50%
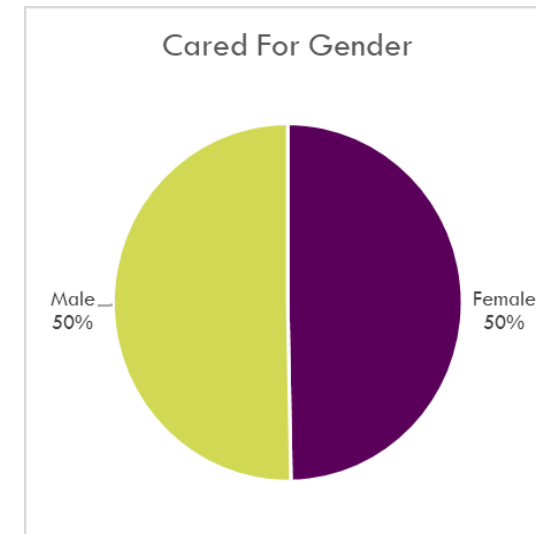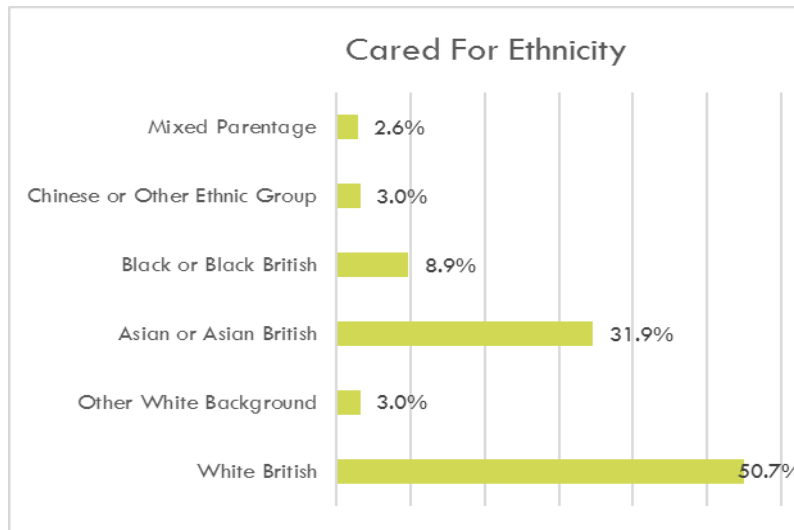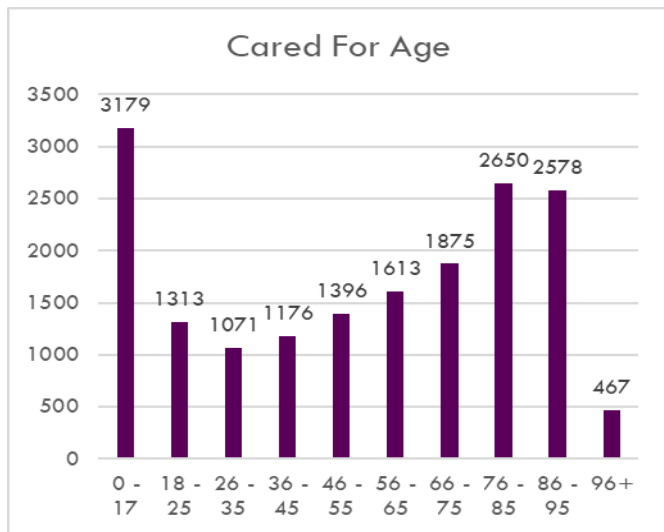
Carer Projects Purpose

As part of the Birmingham Carers Hub contract, Forward Carers CIC is commissioned to run a Carer Projects grants scheme that:
- <u>expands</u> provision for unpaid Carers in Birmingham
- integrates with Birmingham Carers Hub
- delivers positive wellbeing outcomes for Birmingham Carers
- offers value for money

The programme is managed by Forward Carers but successful projects will also support Carers to register with Birmingham Carers Hub service, to further improve outcomes for Carers.

Carer Projects Learning

- Building on previous 2019-2022 Grants Programme that funded 13 projects

Independent review carried out by BVSC celebrated the programme for making real impact for Carers in Birmingham and providing new activities/ services and support for new Carers.

- Some recommendations from the review, which we have implemented:
    - Outcome monitoring to be standardised to simplify programme evaluation
    - Avoid overlap of provision to find more hidden Carers and address wider need/gaps
    - Consideration of how grassroot Carer projects can also be supported
    - Work closer with grant holders so beneficiaries get access to wider Carers support via other projects and Carers Hub registration.

- Looking to fund 10 projects running from September / October 2023 – September/ October 2025 (12 – 24 months)

- Project values £10,000 - £25,000 max per annum

- Opens 23 June: Online application and eligibility screening, guidance documents provided

- https://forwardcarers.org.uk/carer-projects-grant-fund/

Priority Funding Areas

Projects are invited that address the priority areas below:

Priority Area for Bidders	Rationale
Support for LGBTQ+ Carers	To increase provision / Carers UK priority
Support to improve Carer mental wellbeing	ICB & Carers UK priority
Support for Young & Sibling Carers (age 14 years +)	Increase young Carer transition
Support for Bereaved / Pre-Bereaved Carers	Joint Commissioning Objective
Support to address Carer Health Inequalities	ICB priority
Other Carer groups not specified	**Evidence of need provided by applicant**

Eligibility & Success/ Exclusion criteria

✓ Non-profits (including CICs/ SEs/Charities/Community groups)

✓ Organisations with a reach into unpaid Carers in Birmingham

✓ Projects that bring something new, address gaps in support or reach new Carer groups

✓ Projects that will create positive wellbeing impact - Projects should encourage, develop and maintain a Carers independence, wellbeing, confidence and resilience by using assets within their local communities.

✓ Partnership working if it strengthens the project

✓ Additional weighting: Something new/ innovative; Value for money; Real Living Wage/ staff wellbeing ethos; Track record of delivering a difference to families

X Duplication of existing services/ activities (unless reaching a group these don't)

X Funding for core costs (outside of project)/ projects already running

X Political or religious activities

X Unconstituted groups, but possible future funding option…

- Carer Projects will need to deliver against **9 Outcomes** Domains

- Expectation that Carer projects will make a tangible difference against at least 2 Outcomes

Application: Key Project Questions

1. Describe your project/ activity (500 words)

2. Who are the beneficiaries? (500)

3. What relevant experience do you have to deliver this project? (350)

4. How have you / will you continue to involve Carers in project design and delivery?* (350)

5. What outputs, outcome and impact will you deliver? (Table format)

6. List your key milestones and dates (Table format)

7. Provide a budget breakdown (ensure this demonstrates value for money*) (Table format)

Conditions of Funding

1. Deliver the project as per described in the grant application (contract and SLA)
2. Ensure that relevant data for Carers accessing the project is recorded
3. Quarterly project reporting (including activity data, project take-up and Carer case study)
4. At least 85% of Carers accessing the service must complete an outcomes-based questionnaire
5. Take part in evaluating the programme
6. Ensure all Carers are made aware of and supported to register with Birmingham Carers Hub

Funding Process

Pre-application stage:
Promotion of and access to application information
(5th – 22nd June)

→

Application period:
Online process
(23rd June – 28th July midday)

→

Eligibility review/ exclusion
(mid August)

Decision making:
Panel review; Award decision
(mid August)

→

Query and project definition stage:
(mid August)

→

Grant Awards process:
Applicants notified; COGA negotiations; project starts and payment schedule agreed
(end August - midSept)

Projects commence:
All projects launched mid Sept – mid Oct
Launch meeting attended by all project partners

→

Monitoring and support:
Quarterly reports; RAG review; six monthly meeting with FC team/ project partners, twice yearly case study
(ongoing)

→

Project conclusion/ extension:
All phase one projects completed by October 2025
Possible extension based on available funds / project monitoring

www.forwardcarers.org.uk

www.forwardcarers.org.uk/carerprojectsgrantfund

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Social media

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