

Carers' Register PCT Recommendation  
By Sandwell Local Involvement Network (LINK)

Sandwell LINK has carried out work into the issue of carers' registers and more widely the service offered to Sandwell's carers by GPs.

An information request was sent out to all GPs with Sandwell residents registered to their practices. The request was sent 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010 with a 20 day limit on receiving a reply. This included practices not only in Sandwell but also in surrounding areas such as Birmingham and Dudley. In total the information request was sent to 126 practices. Sandwell LINK received a total of 40 replies.

Following this, Sandwell LINK met with representatives from CARES and learned about a baseline survey carried out in April 2009, with the backing of Sandwell PCT. This baseline study was only sent to GP practices within Sandwell and indicated that despite an estimated 10% of people being carers, the average number recorded on registers for responding GPs was only 0.9%. The results of both Sandwell LINK's survey and the 2009 baseline study show that GPs may have carers' registers but they may not be maintained as expected.

This leads on to Sandwell LINK's recommendation that the PCT conducts an update to the research carried out by CARES in order to find out the current state of carers' registers in Sandwell. Sandwell LINK also recommends that this be carried out by the end of 2010 to capitalise on the progress made on this issue during the year, and would be happy to partner the work.

Sandwell LINK would appreciate acknowledgement of this recommendation within twenty working days as stated in section 221 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

<b>Group:</b>	Social Care Subgroup	Management Group
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**Signed by:**



**John Cash**



**Pam Jones**

<b>Position:</b>	Social Care Subgroup Chair	LINK Chair
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<b>Date:</b>	06/09/2010	21/09/2010
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