

# Ready for the Care Act

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council is reassuring its residents that it is well prepared for the national introduction of the Care Act from April 01 this year.

The Care Act is new legislation, introduced by the government to update the way in which adult social care and support is provided and funded. The changes to how care is provided come into force on 1 April 2015 while the changes to how care is funded come into force in April 2016.

The Act sets out how people, irrespective of where they live, will be assessed for care and support and the basis on which their entitlement to care and support is decided. It also affects people who care for family and friends as it gives carers the entitlement to receive support in their own right. From April 2016, the Government is planning to introduce changes designed to limit the amount anyone has to pay over their lifetime for care and support services, this is sometimes referred to as a 'care cap.' The details of how this will work are still subject to discussion and final decisions are not likely until much later in 2015

Many of the changes introduced by the Care Act are already in line with how Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council delivers its Adult Social Care support to residents. It builds on our commitment to putting local people in control of the help they receive and placing their wellbeing and what is important to them and their family at the heart of decisions about their care and support.

## For more information about the Care Act,

go to [www.gov.uk/careandsupport](http://www.gov.uk/careandsupport),  
or visit our website [www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](http://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk).  
The PIN is available at [www.peoplesinfonet.org.uk](http://www.peoplesinfonet.org.uk)  
Carers Together website can be found at [www.carerstogether.co.uk](http://www.carerstogether.co.uk)

This means that the changes are unlikely to affect anyone who is already receiving care and support from the Council.

But the Council is also responding to the Care Act by improving the way we provide some of our services. We are developing our online Peoples Information Network (PIN) to give residents easier access to information about care and support services as well as community groups and activities that can support health and wellbeing.

The Council already offers support to people who care for a family member or friend, but we are working in partnership with Carers Together, a local voluntary sector organisation to ensure that all carers receive the support that they need to look after their own wellbeing and continue in their caring role.

