

Author name: Name suppressed

Date of submission: Thursday, 27 June 2024

Your submission for this review:

Questions for Carer's. In my experience as a kinship carer, it's been very difficult to manage on the carer allowance. I had to find a property to rent, I had three grandchildren in my care. The carer allowance covers the rent, everything else for the children (two have a disability) comes out of what is left over, this is why I had to access my superannuation. I can clearly see why prospective carer's either don't go ahead with the caring role, or leave disgruntled. Communication is extremely poor between social workers, and social worker and carer, not giving out CORRECT information, information given is not TIMELY enough, INCORRECT information given, I don't know, not my department, don't have time to undertake this task. No handovers when S/W goes on leave, transfers to another department, care plans written up in care plan meetings, slow to seek approval from carer, if at all, when the carer is given a copy the plan is out of date, child has moved on (milestones) etc, carer requests ignored, not written up, no mention in the care plan, no discussion, just a flat we don't do that. It's really up to the carer to take charge and pursue the children's needs, it's hard enough undertaking this role without all the above, omitting information, a level of favouritism, between S/W and clients, my view of social work has changed, I was under the impression their motto was (to do no harm). My solution to this problem is, start university and get back to work, to free us from listening to all the excuses. I am determined not to retire into poverty, and advocate for (Superannuation for Carers).