

# Carers Emergency Card Scheme

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**Last updated: May 2021**

## What is a Carers Emergency Card?

It is a plastic card that identifies you as a carer in the event of an emergency. It is the same size as a credit card and will fit in your wallet or purse.

No personal information is shown on the card. It has only a unique identification number and a 24 hour, seven days a week emergency phone number.

The Carers Emergency Card Scheme is a partnership between York Carers Centre and Be Independent (formally Warden Call and is now a part of City of York Council).

## How does the scheme work?

In an emergency anyone who finds the card will be able to contact Be Independent by calling the emergency number. Staff at Be Independent will look up your carer's emergency plan and put it into action.

## You should carry the card with you at all times.

The scheme can give you peace of mind. You may be less anxious about going out and leaving the person you care for. If you have an accident or another emergency to deal with, anyone finding the card (for example, emergency services staff) will know you are a carer and be able to contact Be Independent.

## What is an emergency?

"A sudden, unplanned and temporary situation where the carer is not able to provide the care they usually provide, and the carer is prevented from making temporary arrangements themselves."

## Who can register?

- The scheme is available to all unpaid carers, including young carers aged 5 to 18.
- The person you care for must live within the City of York Council's boundary.

- You do not need to have Be Independent services already as this scheme is separate from their alarm services.

### **How much does it cost?**

It is free to register on the scheme.

### **How to apply**

You need to complete a registration form giving details about yourself and the care needs of the person you look after.

You will be asked to nominate up to three emergency contacts. These can be family members, friends or neighbours and they do not have to live in the City of York.

Ideally your contacts should be known to the person you care for and be able to provide short term care in an emergency. They will not be expected to take over the whole caring role as current services and support that are in place will continue.

You can still register with the scheme if you do not have any emergency contacts.

### **Please contact York Carers Centre to register for a Carers Emergency Card.**

**Tel: 01904 715 490**

**Email: [enquiries@yorkcarerscentre.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@yorkcarerscentre.co.uk)**

#### **York Carers Centre**

(01904) 715 490

[enquiries@yorkcarerscentre.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@yorkcarerscentre.co.uk)

[www.yorkcarerscentre.co.uk](http://www.yorkcarerscentre.co.uk)

#### **City of York Council**

(01904) 555 111

[adult.socialsupport@york.gov.uk](mailto:adult.socialsupport@york.gov.uk)

[www.york.gov.uk/carers](http://www.york.gov.uk/carers)