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## The UK's National Carers Strategy 2008: How did we get there and where are we going?

### Conference or Workshop Item

How to cite:

Larkin, Mary (2012). The UK's National Carers Strategy 2008: How did we get there and where are we going? In: Workshops at Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and Ministry of Employment and Economics, Mar 2102, Helsinki, Finland.

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## Legislation and government initiatives

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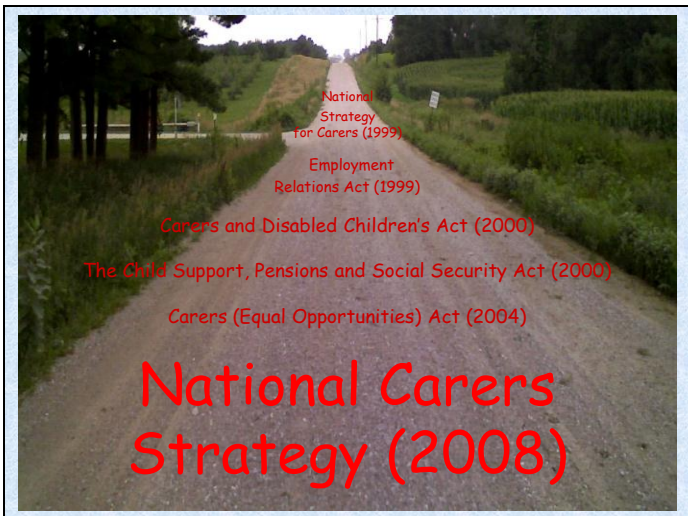
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### THE NATIONAL CARERS STRATEGY 2008 - "Carers at the heart of 21st century families and communities: a caring system on your side, a life of your own"

- strong prime ministerial and cross-departmental support
- "by 2018, carers will be universally recognised and valued as being fundamental to strong families and stable communities. Support will be tailored to meet individual needs, enabling carers to maintain a balance between their caring responsibilities and a life outside caring, while enabling the person they support to be a full and equal citizen"
- carers' role, value and importance is now widely recognised

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## Priority areas until 2014 . . . . .

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- support carers to remain mentally and physically well
  - personalised support for carers and those they support
  - fulfil their educational and employment potential
  - involve them in designing care
  - recognise their contributions
  - identify carers at an early stage

## THE FUTURE?

- there is evidence that efforts to support carers will continue and up until now the government has been willing to commit resources to support to carers
- BUT..... there is an economic recession

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