**Eurocarers AGM -
Policy Tour de Table**

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Care as a Complex, Adaptive Ecosystem

What makes social care a complex adaptive ecosystem and how can understanding this help improve care outcomes for all.

Digital Care: roles, risks, realities and rewards

Exploring how digital technology, care and caring relationships intersect and interact.

Care Data Infrastructure

Improving the social care data and analytical infrastructure.

Care Trajectories and Constraints

Here we explore experiences of care at different life stages, when families are geographically dispersed and as people experience different parts of the care system.

Inequalities in Care

We use statistics and link data to study how socio-economic, health and other inequalities shape experiences of care for groups and individuals in different places and over time.
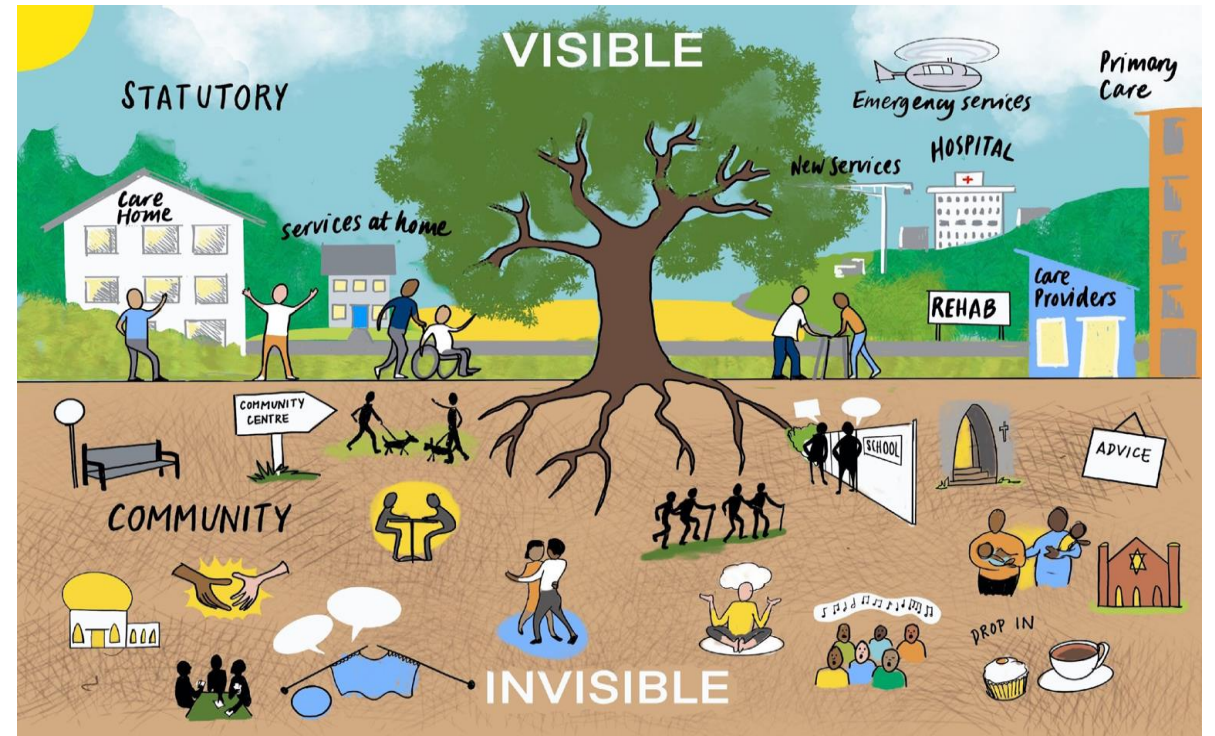

Care Workforce Change

We study change, innovation and challenges in paid care work: recruitment, organisation, conditions, digitalisation and their effects on job and service quality.

Care as a complex, adaptive ecosystem.. this team is:

- **Charting the complexity of the [UK's systems](#), that can lead to fatalism or inaction**

- **Studying 3 sites to explore:**

- interplay between 'stability' / 'disruption'

- how this affects value creation / destruction

Digital care: this team is working at three levels….

Macro: policy mapping/analysis on developments in digital / technology in care in the UK's 4 nations; recently published a [new book](#) (covering developments in Australia, Canada, England, Germany and Japan)

Meso: local authority case studies of digital care, exploring strategies, commissioning arrangements and stakeholder perspectives

Micro:

- **Case studies of care providers, care workers and care work**
  - Does more data = better, more efficient / effective care?
  - Role of care workers in data collection/interpretation: technology as a disruptor / enabler in care work - reordering tasks, labour, time
- [Technologies that matter](#): co-produced with people who receive care/support to explore which technologies help them live good lives

Care data infrastructure …. this team's work includes

- **'Valuing Carers' – our** updated reports on the value of care, using Census 2021 for [England & Wales](#) and [N Ireland](#), in collaboration with Carers UK

- **Our new Centre for Care 'dashboard' – which aims to provide online access to UK** data on care and carers at local level

- **Study of 'dyadic dynamics' of older people's unmet care needs (England)**

- **Experiences of unpaid care: developing intersectional analyses**

Care trajectories & constraints:
this team's work focuses on …

- **Transitions and borders,** which can have negative and enduring consequences for wellbeing.

- How smoother transitions could be achieved through **system, policy and service changes**

- It uses a **life course approach** to explore how care transitions and borders affect experience of care:

  - risks and system shocks (e.g. Covid-19, Brexit)

  - life course transitions: relationships, education, employment, family

  - service transitions (e.g. from children's to adults' services)

Inequalities in care - this team's work includes …..

Modelling cycles of caring

- Visualisations of care transitions
- A scoping review on financial wellbeing and unpaid care

Developing an 'Opportunity Cost' framework

- wellbeing outcomes (e.g. wages, employment)
- individual, societal implications

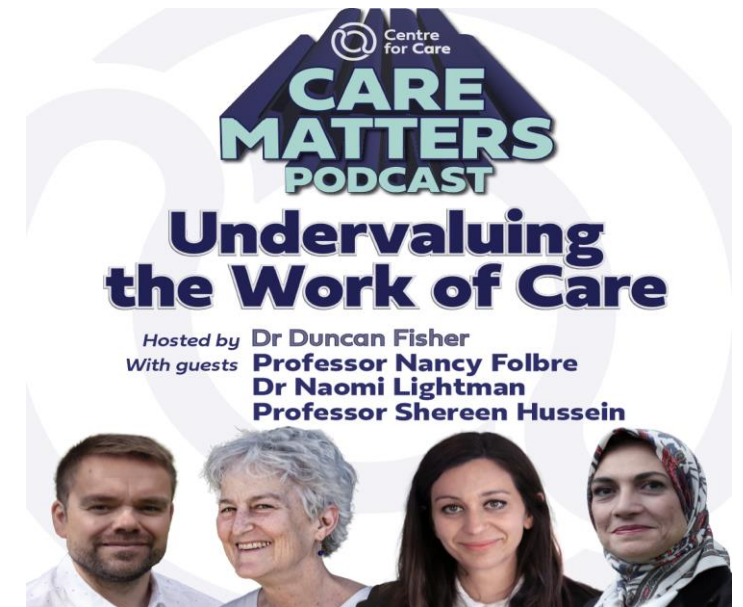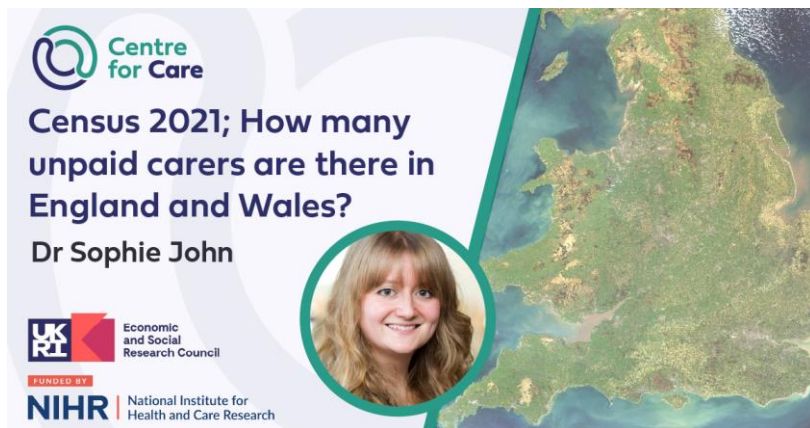## Exploring the impact of care intensity

Care workforce change – this team is

- **Examining the role and impact of digitalisation on care workforce change**

- **Identifying the nature and extent of care workforce innovations**

- **Studying how the care workforce is seeking to drive change, with what outcomes**

Centre for Care online

Website

➢ **Working papers/reports**

➢ **Commentaries**

➢ **Information**

➢ **Updates and news**

➢ **Podcasts with leading academics, people with lived experience, researchers**

The Future of Care Work?
by Rachael Black

Census 2021; How many unpaid carers are there in England and Wales?
Dr Sophie John

CARE MATTERS PODCAST

CARE MATTERS PODCAST
Undervaluing the Work of Care
Hosted by Dr Duncan Fisher
With guests Professor Nancy Folbre
Dr Naomi Lightman
Professor Shereen Hussein

Carers' Allowance: in the news <u>now</u> in the UK

- In April we gave evidence on **huge financial problems** for many carers to a Westminster Parliamentary Committee

- National newspapers, TV & radio picked up this story

- We showed **governments have for years failed to act** to solve problems with Carers Allowance

- **Thousands of carers have been plunged into debt** by CA rules – some carers have been prosecuted and face years of repayments

- **We hope for change** as public opinion responds:

  - *to the harsh earnings rules for carers who combine caring with PT work*

  - *justice for carers trapped in debt through overpayments they weren't told about*

  - *meaningful increase in CA, linking it to rises in pensions and earnings*

  - *an end to rules that mean carers lose CA on reaching state pension age*

WISH US LUCK AS CARERS' ORGANISATIONS WORK TOGETHER FOR CHANGE!

Request to contribute your story!

Carers' Organisations and their Impact: the creation of a global movement

New book forthcoming from Policy Press in 2025

Please share your carers' organisation's story of:

- **how it was founded and established its priorities**
- **its major campaigns and achievements**
- **any local or national policies it has influenced**
- **how you benefit from being part of Eurocarers**
- **the services and support you offer to carers**
- **aims you've been unable to achieve**
- **I'm especially interested in newer organisations established around or after 2010**

To receive a checklist of questions / details of how any data or information you provide will be used
Please contact:
Professor Sue Yeandle
s.yeandle@sheffield.ac.uk:

Centre for Care Director: Professor Kate Hamblin
Centre for Care Deputy Director: Professor Nathan Hughes

Please get in touch if you would like to know more, or to work with us on related issues, by contacting our support team:

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