

## Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/caring-for-carers/>

The report discusses the situation of unpaid carers in the UK, highlighting that approximately 5 million individuals provide unpaid care to friends or family members due to illness or disability. The majority of these carers are women, and many face significant challenges, including poverty and barriers to employment. It is noted that 44% of full-time carers live in poverty, and a large majority (91%) feel neglected by the government.

The report advocates for policy changes to support unpaid carers by reducing obstacles to employment and addressing poverty. Key suggestions include extending the recently introduced right to one week of unpaid carers leave to two weeks, establishing paid carers leave, and allowing carers to maintain their job security when taking time off for caregiving duties.

Additionally, the report proposes implementing an employment insurance scheme to provide financial support during periods of leave for caregiving, similar to maternity leave. It emphasizes the need for flexible policy options to accommodate the diverse circumstances of carers across the UK. Immediate and systemic reforms are necessary to improve the conditions of unpaid carers and prevent them from falling into poverty.