



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

circle  
CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
RESEARCH ON CARE,  
LABOUR & EQUALITIES

# *Sustainable Care Models:*

*research and policy exchange for a better caring future*

**Professor Sue Yeandle**

*Centre for International Research on Care, Labour and Equalities*

**University of Sheffield, UK**

[s.yeandle@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.yeandle@sheffield.ac.uk)



***State of Caring Conference: Carers and the Heart of Health and Care,  
12 July 2018***

## Context

# *Sustainable Care: connecting people and systems programme*

2

### *Focus:*

- The 'crisis of care': towards sustainable care with wellbeing outcomes
- How care work and caring interact
- How this is affected by diversity, mobility and migration
- The role of technological 'solutions'
- The consequences of emerging trends in home care
- How support for working carers can be enhanced

### *Core partnership:*

**7 Universities:** Sheffield (lead partner), Birmingham, Kings College London, Ulster, Swansea, Stirling and Alberta (Canada)

**Carers UK:** Madeleine Starr; Katherine Wilson; Emily Holzhausen

# *Aims of the Sustainable Care research programme*

3

- To explore how **care arrangements**, currently ‘in crisis’, can be made sustainable and deliver wellbeing outcomes
- To support policy and practice actors and scholars to conceptualise **sustainability** in care as an issue of rights, values, ethics and justice, as well as of resource distribution
- To examine sources of economic and social sustainability in care, especially how **wellbeing outcomes** can be achieved for care users, their families, carers and paid care workers

Multi-disciplinary, **Economic & Social Research Council** funded  
**UK focus**, with network of international partners

## CARE ARRANGEMENTS: key elements

<b>Diversity, mobility, inequality – the changing face of care</b> <i>Relevant policy areas:</i> immigration; poverty/wealth, portable pensions, equality & human rights				
CARE ARRANGEMENTS	Care Systems	Care Work	Care Relationships	CARE ARRANGEMENTS
	<b>Social care law</b> (England) Consolidated in <i>Care Act 2014</i> ‘Wellbeing’ / ‘Prevention’ Independent regulator (CQC)	<b>Paid, regulated care work</b> Home care Residential care Community care Personal assistance	<b>Formal, professional</b> Worker – client/customer Worker – employer Worker - supervisor Worker - co-worker	
	<b>Social care policy</b> Means tested v ‘free’ NHS care Local authorities have main role Uneven integration with NHS Carers’ policies / legislation	<b>Unregulated care work</b> ‘Grey’ caring labour Cash-in-hand / informal schemes Migrant labour (some versions)	<b>Informal / grey work</b> Quasi-kin / friendship 24/7 live-in care Domestic/househ’d services Modern slavery	
	<b>Public funding</b> Austerity and rationing Declining role (2010s) Needs and means tested	<b>Unpaid (relational) care</b> Family members Friends and neighbours Co-caring relationships	<b>Kin relations</b> Co-resident / Local / Distant ‘Voluntary’ ‘no choice’ - -‘active choice’	
	<b>Care market</b> Profitability / investment Recruitment / retention Innovation and change	<b>Donated or exchanged care</b> Volunteers (NGOs, charities) ‘Shared lives’ Care credit schemes	<b>Affective / proximal contexts</b> (neighbours, friends)	
<b>Evolving role of technology - enhancement, replacement, alternative</b> <i>Policies /practices:</i> innovation, design, industrial strategy, entrepreneurs, global firms, investors				

## CARE ARRANGEMENTS

# *Sustainable Care arrangements: what's wrong?*

## *What are the problems we need to fix?*

5

- Harsher **rationing** and growing **unmet need**
- **Uneven standards and quality**, despite a regulatory framework
- **Funding** and **staffing crises**, adding stress at all levels
- Unacceptable prevalence of **loneliness, isolation, neglect, abuse**
- **Minimal support** which cannot generate wellbeing
- **'Lottery' outcomes** based on condition, place, age and locality
- **Inadequate investment**, in training, support, technology, advice
- **Families and carers under pressure – pressure – pressure !!!!!**
  - ▣ **Financial worries**, mounting debts today, inadequate pensions tomorrow
  - ▣ **Deteriorating health**, mental and physical
  - ▣ **Isolation and exclusion** from 'normal' life – family, leisure, citizenship, career
  - ▣ **Daily struggles** juggling work, life & care – inadequate workplace support, minimal employment rights (time off to care, leave, flexibilities, return options)

# How can care arrangements become sustainable?

## What is sustainability? Whose wellbeing ... and how?

6

### WELLBEING in care arrangements

- **Material wellbeing** (the material conditions of the person)
- **Subjective wellbeing** (the meanings which people attach to their life, and how they evaluate it)
- **Relational wellbeing** (supports each person to have positive relationships with others in society)
- **Progress and risks** (to the 3 types of wellbeing) can be measured, assessed and monitored

### SUSTAINABLE care arrangements

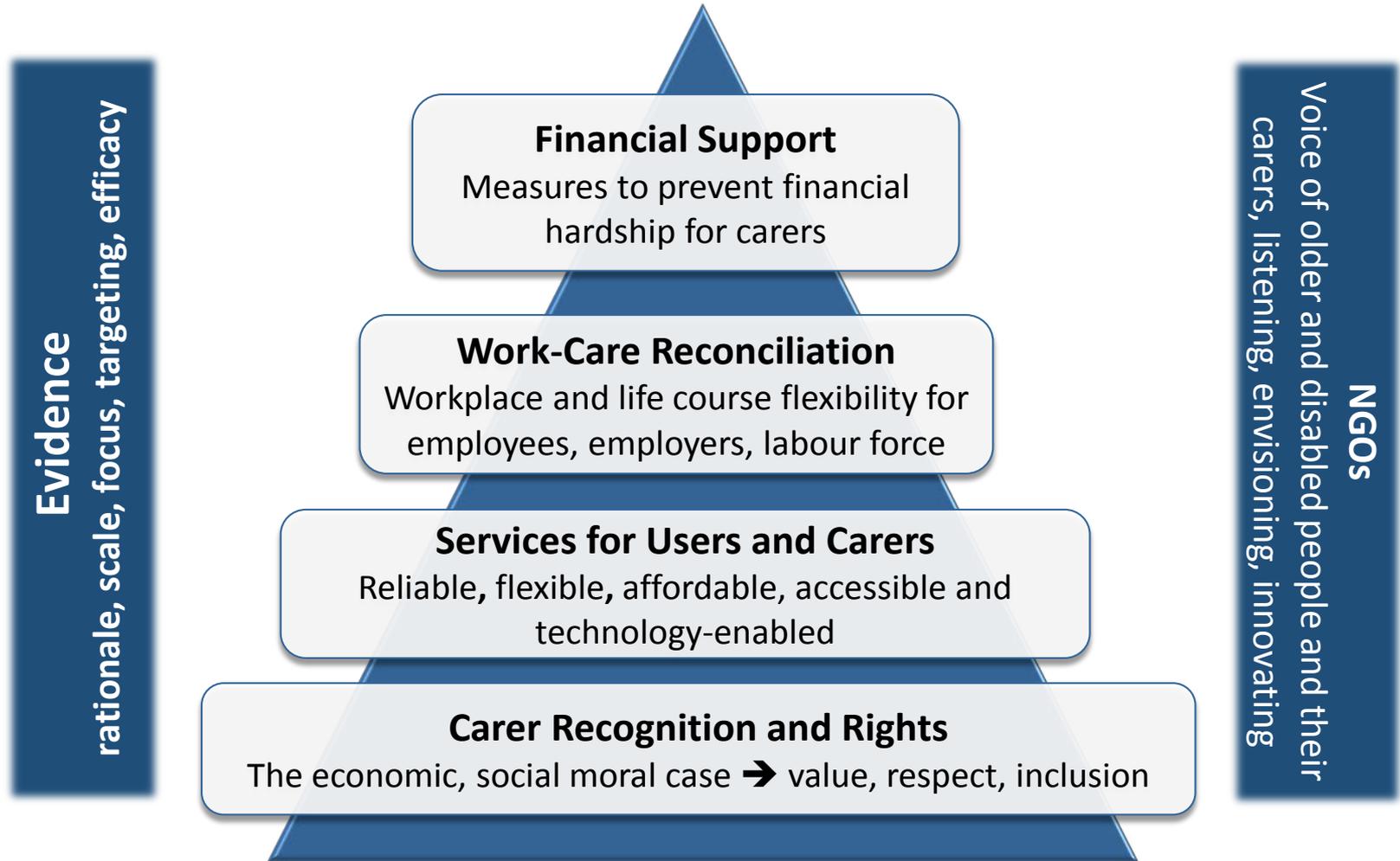
- **Meet wellbeing needs** of those *receiving* and *providing* care
- **Enhance caring capability** of others and of future generations
- **Share costs and contributions:** fair, stable, understandable, within a social contract for care framework
- **Respect dignity and choice** (of all involved in care relationships)
- **Value care provision:** carers and care workers are respected and supported, not exploited

# Framework for policy options

## Model for delivering sustainable and inclusive support for carers

7

\*Figure developed by Yeandle & Fast:  
<http://circle.leeds.ac.uk/files/2014/05/Challenge-of-Caring-v6-low-res-WEB.pdf>



# Structure of the programme

8

## NINE SUSTAINABLE CARE PROGRAMME RESEARCH TEAMS

*Sustainable Wellbeing: a conceptual and analytical framework  
for policy and practice in care and caring*

**Strand A:  
CARE SYSTEMS**

**Strand B:  
CARE WORK and CARING RELATIONSHIPS**

*A1 Comparing UK Care Systems:  
prospects, developments and  
differentiation in the 4 UK nations*

*B1 Delivering Care at Home:  
emerging models and their implications for  
sustainable wellbeing*

*A2 Modelling care system costs and  
contributions: data for a sustainable  
care and wellbeing strategy*

*B2 Combining work and care:  
workplace support and its  
contribution to sustainable care arrangements*

*A3 Achieving sustainability in care  
systems: the potential of technology.*

*B3 Technologies to support working carers:  
connecting people and systems*

*A4 Migrant care workers in the UK: an  
analysis of sustainability of  
care at home*

*B4 Care 'In' & 'Out of' Place: towards  
sustainable well-being in mobile and  
diverse contexts.*

# *Sustainable Care: towards effective models*

9

## *Our research approach*

- Multi-disciplinary research teams
- 9 linked projects, focused on impact and positive change
- Engage with carers / people needing support and with practitioners and organisations across the sector
- Regular dialogue: policymakers, politicians, press and media
- International partners in 16 countries researching similar challenges in their own contexts

## *Engage with us*

- Visit our **website**
- Follow us on **twitter**
- Respond to our **surveys**
- **Comment** on our outputs
- **Advise** on our approach
- **Write** about what can or is changing – for better, for worse – the *International Journal of Care and Caring* publishes 12 ‘free to view’ short pieces every year and welcomes your contributions

# *Sustainable Care: connecting people and systems*

## **CONTACT US**

- **Funding:** Economic & Social Research Council (Nov. 2017- May 2021)
- **Principal Investigator:** Professor Sue Yeandle

*Please get in touch.....*

*if you'd like to know more, or to work with us on related issues,  
contact our programme support team:*

- **Programme Administrator:** Dan Williamson: [d.williamson@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:d.williamson@sheffield.ac.uk)
- **Programme Manager:** Dr Kelly Davidge: [k.s.davidge@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:k.s.davidge@sheffield.ac.uk)



[circle.group.shef.ac.uk](http://circle.group.shef.ac.uk)



@CircleShef

## **INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CARE AND CARING**

<https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/journals/international-journal-of-care-and-caring>