

Carer's Leave

- ▶ Between 13 and 104 weeks
- ▶ Entitled under legislation: Carer's Leave Act 2001
- ▶ Permitted 15hrs work per week: net earning permitted €332.50
- ▶ Same or similar position is guaranteed at work: "should not be worse off" after taking leave

Rates

- ▶ Carer's Benefit: €205 per week. Not means-tested. No other benefits
- ▶ Carer's Allowance: €204 per week. Means-tested. Other benefits available
- ▶ Care Sharing

Statistics

- ▶ Numbers: 1,598 recipients of Carer's Benefit in 2013
- ▶ 2.4% drop from 2012 - representing only 40 people
- ▶ Carer's Allowance: over 57,000
- ▶ Cost: €22.5m total 2013; Carer's Allowance: up €45m from 2012

Low Take-Up

- ▶ Lack of awareness of entitlement: Government acknowledgement
- ▶ Economic and psychosocial reasons
- ▶ Professional status
- ▶ Stigma of welfare recipient