

## **Carers ID Card**

The Belfast Trust has been working in collaboration with the Department of Health and the Health and Social Care Board and other Trusts to develop a Carers ID that will give unpaid/family carers access to additional exercise hours / additional travel as required and access to priority shopping hours in supermarkets.

We know from a recent survey many unpaid carers in Belfast are providing more care due to the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore have less free time for food shopping. The following NI retailers have agreed to grant access to unpaid/family carers during priority shopping hours. These include Asda, Sainsbury's, Iceland, Marks & Spencer, Lidl and the Co-op.

**(Carers will be asked to provide their Carers ID Card along with photographic ID in order to avail of the priority shopping hours)**

The Belfast Trust wants to acknowledge the key role unpaid/family carers have in the community and hope that the Carers ID card recognises and helps people in their caring role. The Trust service directorates have been distributing the ID cards to people known to them. If the person you care for is known to services, you will receive one. However for BHSCT staff who are caring for family and friends, where the person is not known to Trust or is in another Trust area, you can contact the Carer Support Service for advice how on to receive one on [CarerSuppSvcs@belfasttrust.hscni.net](mailto:CarerSuppSvcs@belfasttrust.hscni.net)