

How can we develop Self-Directed Support?

What we're doing

The Shetland Community Health and Social Care Directorate, along with its partners, is working to improve how Self-Directed Support (SDS) works in Shetland and as part of this process is gathering information.

This leaflet is the start of a conversation with users (and future users), their families, and carers.

The next step is in-person and online sessions which will give you the chance to hear about the proposed improvements to SDS and share your views on how well you feel SDS works. Your views will help us develop the process of how social care resources are allocated to make sure that this is done equitably and sustainably, while promoting more choice and control for those who access social care.

Following the improvement work including the conversation with you, a report will be prepared for Councillors, and any change to procedures put in place. Our team will be in touch with you directly if you are likely to be affected by any changes made.

Background

The Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 sets out the statutory framework for how social care is delivered in Scotland. It is intended to promote and protect human rights and access to independent living for those who use social care. It aims to make sure care is delivered in a way that supports choice and control, as well as the person's right to participate in society.

The Act sets out four options for how social care can be delivered, and local authorities are required to discuss these options with individuals. The four options are:

- **OPTION 1** – Direct Payment – Cash is paid directly to the supported person or a family member, carer, or guardian, to spend on the outcomes of their assessment
- **OPTION 2** – Individual Service Fund – The person chooses what support they would like. The local authority (or an agency) holds their budget, and makes arrangements on their behalf
- **OPTION 3** – Direct Service – The local authority selects the support, and arranges it
- **OPTION 4** – Combination – The supported person can choose to mix the above options in a way that suits them

As part of the improvement work, we are working with In Control Scotland, a registered charity and not –for-profit organisation which has been active in promoting good practice in self-directed support since 2007. In Control are helping us to use national guidance and best practice across Scotland to develop a new system that will help us to give those people using social care an indication of how much money they can spend on their support.

Before the pandemic, there was a limit on the budget provided to an individual on an annual basis. We will be looking at reintroducing this in order to make sure we can continue to provide social care resources on an equitable and sustainable basis into the future, while recognising that there will be situations where exceptional circumstances will apply.

How you can help

We would like to invite you to one of our engagement sessions to let you share your views and ideas about how you feel we could improve how Self-Directed Support is provided in Shetland, and the changes we are looking to make.

These will be held on the following dates:

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|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| • Monday 22nd April | 6.00 – 7.30 pm | Brae Youth Centre |
| • Tuesday 23rd April | 6.30 – 8.00 pm | Carnegie Hall, Sandwick |
| • Thursday 25th April | 12.30 – 1.30 pm | Online - Microsoft Teams |
| • Thursday 25th April | 6.30 – 8.00 pm | Islesburgh Community Centre |
| • Friday 26th April | 6.00 – 7.00 pm | Online - Microsoft Teams |

If you would like to **sign up for one of the online sessions** or if you are not able to attend a session, but would still like to share your views or have any questions answered, please call us on **01595 744400**, or email us on **DirectPaymentsCare@shetland.gov.uk**

Links to Adult Services (Learning Disability and Autism) Future Planning Programme

Alongside the work above, the Health and Social Care Partnership is also gathering information to help inform, shape and plan how support is provided for people with Learning Disability and Autism in the future.

You may also be asked to contribute to discussions around that work.