

Person Specification- Shared Lives Carer

	Essential	Desirable
Values and attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non judgemental • Enthusiasm and passion for what could be achieved for and with the individual being supported. • Open and honest • Values each individual and supports them in a person centred way 	
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication skills – able to talk openly and easily with a range of people including professionals. • Organised within the household • Able to weigh up risks and make considered decisions • Able to cope with unpredictability and be flexible • Able to keep accurate records e.g. finance, incidents, medication • Able to empower people to develop and achieve their potential • Ability to empathise • Ability to maintain professional boundaries • Able to use email and the internet (this is our preferred communication method) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific caring skills e.g. sign language, management of a condition e.g. epilepsy, diabetes • IT literate

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	Essential	Desirable
Personal characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patience • Willingness to go the extra mile for others • Integrity • Calmness when required • Enthusiasm and energy • Willingness to learn new things • Self awareness of strengths and weaknesses • Sense of responsibility for the wellbeing of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidence
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal, voluntary or work based experience of caring for or supporting people in some capacity • Relevant life experience that the person can translate into the role of SLSW Carer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous paid employment as a carer or running a care service • Previous role as a family carer for a vulnerable adult

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	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of needs of the individual even if no in depth knowledge of conditions • An understanding of the role of a SLSW Carer • An understanding of how to maintain health and well being in self and others • Understand person centred approaches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific knowledge about certain disabilities or conditions and how they might effect an individual • Knowledge about welfare benefits • Understand and implement the principles of confidentiality • Know how to respond to the unexpected e.g. allegation of abuse, accident, unexplained absence
Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient bedrooms for number of people proposed with adequate space for furniture and personal possessions • Clean, safe and well maintained • Sufficient bathroom facilities for all household members' needs • Comfortable • Allows space and privacy for all household members • Permission from landlord or mortgage company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor space • Ground floor/accessible accommodation

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	Essential	Desirable
Whole family context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to include the individual in all aspects of family life • Whole household supportive of the proposal to become a SLSW Carer • Family works as a team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good support network • Experience of sharing your home with non-family members
Physical health requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally in good health • Any pre-existing mental or physical health issues are well controlled and the SLSW Carer role would not exacerbate the condition or put the carer or individual at risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active lifestyle
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific qualifications required • Commitment to training and to undertake learning to meet the needs of the individual and the requirements of the role of SLSW Carer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any social or health care qualification • First aid training • Health and safety training • Recent Safeguarding training (but training offered to all carers)