

All you need to know about our Shared Lives South West Long Term service



Who are we?

Shared Lives South West is an award winning charity that sets up and supports long term and short break care services throughout Devon, Cornwall and Somerset.

We provide care and support and we are an alternative to supported living and residential care.

We have been helping to support people for more than 15 years and we are a highly regarded care provider, rated **Outstanding** by the Care Quality Commission.



What do we do?

People who use our service are able to self-fund.

We specialise in supporting people with learning disabilities, autism, mental health needs, dementia and older people. Those who use our services can live in the home of one of our approved carers.



How can we help you?

- We listen to you about what you need for your home and support.
- We work with you to find a suitable Carer.
- Your Carer will help you achieve your goals and to be as independent as possible.
- Support can be given with: your money, education, voluntary and paid work and accessing groups, clubs and day services.
- Your Carer can help you learn new skills such as cooking and gardening.
- SLSW and all carers strive to enable you to have your thoughts and opinions heard and can help you grow your confidence.



What happens next?

- If you are interested in finding out more about Shared Lives let us know or you can ask someone to contact us for you.
- You would then consent to share your information with us by filling in our referral form, someone can help you with this.
- From the form we will see what support you whether you can afford to pay towards the service
- We work with you to try and find a suitable Carer.
- We arrange for you to meet the Carer and see the house. You can bring someone with you to the visit.
- After meeting the Carer we will ask you what you think.
- If everyone is happy we can plan the next step. This looks different for everyone; it may be going for dinner, an overnight stay, a weekend break or moving straight in!
- You will have a dedicated Shared Lives worker who will get to know you and keep in touch with you.

What will it cost me?

You can buy Shared Lives services in many ways:

- By Direct Payment and pay the rent and household costs.
- By a Commissioned service and pay the rent and household costs.
- By self-funding if you have more than £23,250.00 to cover support and rent household costs.

Everyone living with a carer has to pay rent and household costs. The rent is for your room and household costs are to cover your food, washing and paying towards gas and electric.

After we receive your referral we will look at your needs and work out the predicted costs of you using our services.

There is no need to worry, every person's situation is different and we are here to help.

Find out more at: www.sharedlivessw.org.uk

Cornwall: 01209 891888 Devon: 01626 360170 Somerset: 01460 477980



Bob

They treat me as one of the family.

Giving up smoking was one of the hardest things I have ever done but I did it this year with help. I like living here, the people, I am not lonely any more, we get out and about. I can please myself, do whatever I want to do - go fishing, out for a drink or a meal, a ride in the car or maybe go to the beach or a garden.



Jen

I'm really happy where I live. I now have a volunteering job and have taken up horse riding.
I'm living my life, my way



Edward

I have benefited from this service for the last 14 years. I don't know how I would of managed if I hadn't moved in with SLSW Carers and more recently into a 'just next door' facility for the last two years.

I enjoy living semi independently knowing that I can have support when I need it but also cater for myself in ways such as, doing my laundry, keeping my living area clean and making snacks.

I was ready to move on and I value having my own space and being able to develop my daily living skills whilst coexisting in harmony!

I contribute to community life by volunteering in a local charity shop and enjoy busking too. I'm also grateful for the support SLSW Funding and Benefits team have given over the years especially maximising benefits and helping when needed.