

Guidance- Who pays for what?

In everyone's daily lives there are items we need to purchase and activities we want to do which cost money. The issue of who should be expected to cover these costs when someone lives in a Shared Lives arrangement can be both problematic and at times contentious. In order to assist both Shared Lives Carers and schemes to reach decisions with people who use Shared Lives services (or their advocates) that are fair to all parties, Shared Lives Plus worked with Shared Lives members to develop the guidance below. It is important to note that Shared Lives members believe there will always be a need for flexibility in this area and this guidance is not intended to create new rules but more to suggest an approach that we hope will be helpful to all concerned. For 'grey areas' dependent on individual circumstances, judgments need to be reached through discussion with relevant parties i.e. the people who use our services or their circle of support (e.g. family members, advocate, social worker, the Shared Lives Carers, scheme representative) then the decision recorded.

Yes

Payment for	By person using our services	By Shared Lives carers	Comments	Potential issues
Activities/entrance fees (person using the service)	Yes			
Activities/entrance fees for Shared Lives carers supporting		Yes	For an activity only for the benefit of the person he/she would be asked to pay the Shared Lives Carers's entrance fee (In some situations carers will go free or receive a discount). (Evidence and a brief record would protect all parties)	Who makes the judgment of who is benefiting?
Proportion of Holiday costs when going as part of Shared Lives Carer's family/ household	Yes		Those using the service would pay the appropriate share of costs for petrol accommodation and other holiday related expenses. If the person needs support with money management, a proposed budget for meals etc. out could be agreed in advance and recorded	Can be difficult to calculate some elements on family holidays.
Personally selected holiday for the person using our services	Yes		If the person is going on his/her chosen holiday and wants his/her Shared Lives Carer to be the person to provide the support he/she needs he/she would be expected to cover both people's essential holiday costs. (Evidence and a brief record would protect all parties)	Clarity needed about which holiday costs are essential and in some cases for how many Shared Lives Carers
A person who uses our service's independent holiday (not to meet respite needs)	Yes		A person using our services would not be expected to pay food and utilities payment to long-term Shared Lives Carers for this period.	
Disability equipment /adaptations			Grants through Social Services and/or housing departments can be available for adaptations and equipment with the person using the service being financially assessed. Small pieces of equipment would be paid for by the person using the service.	To be eligible for a grant the person would need to be deemed as living in their own home therefore longer term Shared Lives arrangements may attract adaptation funding more easily.
Snacks out with day service	Yes			
Meals out with day services			If it has been agreed in the service user plan that a packed lunch is provided then an agreed contribution by the Shared Lives Carers (cost of packed lunch) could be made if the person on occasions chooses instead to have a meal out. If this occurs frequently then the person should cover the cost of meals out.	
Snacks out with Shared Lives Carers	Yes	Yes	Each cover own costs unless Shared Lives Carers invited by the person in which case he/she would pay	Can be difficult in family outing situations

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Meals out with Shared Lives Carers			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If only for Shared Lives carers convenience, Shared Lives Carer pays. If a mutual arrangement each covers own cost. If at the person's special request then he/she could be expected to pay both for himself/herself and the Shared Lives Carer/s <p>(Evidence and a brief record would</p>	
Meals out without Shared Lives Carers	Yes		The person using the service to pay own meals out if Shared Lives carer/s is expected to provide meals as part of Shared Lives arrangement and person chooses to eat out.	
Day centre attendance fee (if applicable)	Yes		The person using the service, also has to cover the cost of transportation or lunch costs (see above)	
Dietary requirements and non-prescribed health items or services eg cough syrup chiropody	Yes		<p>Any special dietary requirements for medical reasons that incur additional costs to Shared Lives Carer/s should be taken into account when the initial carer/s payment is agreed (and at review times) with the scheme/care management.</p> <p>Non prescribed health items and chiropody costs would be met by the person could potential be considered as a Disability Related Expense which would reduce the financial assessment</p>	
Cigarettes	Yes			
Drinks in pub with Shared Lives Carers	Yes	Yes	If the person with sufficient income is out with Shared Lives Carers, encouragement to take a turn at buying a 'round' may be appropriate. Otherwise the person would buy own drinks	
Clothes	Yes			Difficulties can arise when people who use our services do not want to replace needed clothing
Toiletries/ hairdresser	Yes			
Birthday and Christmas gifts people using our services	Yes			
Furnishings/ decoration			<p>Those using long term services pay to live in a furnished/well decorated home but can be expected to purchase any additional items they want for their own room eg additional shelving for CDs particular chair etc. and pay a contribution for redecoration of their room if the change relates to choice rather than need.</p> <p>(Evidence and a brief record would protect all parties)</p>	Disagreements about when 'need' and when 'choice' should be discussed with the scheme
Holiday home			<p>Cost to be shared between all people present for rented accommodation. For Shared Lives carers owned property an agreed amount would be contributed by the person based on the contribution they would make in similar rented accommodation. (Recorded evidence would be needed to demonstrate that the person has had choice both about the kind of holiday and regularity of visits to the holiday home in order protect all parties)</p>	

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Journeys to medical appointments	Yes		Infrequent, short journeys may be viewed as part of the Shared Lives Carer payment	
Journeys to meetings (e.g. person- centred planning or day service review)		Yes	The supported person would not be expected to contribute if their Shared Lives Carer's participation is required at the meeting.	
Journeys to visit relatives of the person in Shared Lives	Yes			
Journeys to social events - the person in Shared Lives independently attending	Yes			
Journeys to social events - Shared Lives Carer supporting	Yes		Costs to be shared if the Shared Lives Carer would have been attending independently.	
Journeys to respite		Yes	Agreement should be reached between the main Shared Lives Carer, respite carer and the scheme worker. Such agreements should be reached before the respite break- starts. Carers can claim reimbursement/payment from respite pot. NB. For cases of emergency respite, such as carer hospitalisation, the person may be required to pay mileage to and from the respite. Local authorities will expect this unless unaffordable, and could then consider one off payments.	
Journeys to household social event e.g. Shared Lives Carer's family party		Yes	The supported person could be expected to pay a proportionate amount or, since the Shared Lives Carer(s) would be going anyway, the carer might be expected to cover the travel cost for the whole household.	
Journeys to days out with Shared Lives Carers' household	Yes	Yes	Costs should be shared proportionately, unless the outing is only for the benefit of the person in Shared Lives.	
Journeys to Short breaks away with Shared Lives family	Yes	Yes	Costs should be shared proportionately, unless the outing is only for the benefit of the person supported.	
<i>Journey to go on household holiday</i>	Yes	Yes	Costs should be shared proportionately, if this is a planned holiday for the whole family/ household.	
Leisure journeys during household holiday	Yes	Yes	as above	
Journey to go on holidays/ short breaks independent of Shared Lives Carer	Yes			