

Shared Lives

Means a better life



Hampshire
County Council



EasyRead version



Would you like:

Your own bedroom that is private?



To live in a comfortable house?



To live with friendly people?



To get as much help as you need?



If you answered “yes”, then the Shared Lives scheme could be for you.

What is Shared Lives?



Shared Lives is a scheme where we arrange for you to stay with a carer.

Each arrangement is planned to meet your needs.



If you do not like what we arrange for you, you are free to say no.



We will give you expert support the whole time you are living with your carer.



If you want to keep in touch with your family and friends, we will be happy to support you to do this.



You can learn new skills and meet new people in the comfort of your carer's home.



You can use Shared Lives to help you become more independent.

18+

Who can use Shared Lives?

You can use Shared Lives if you are aged 18 or over and you need support.

You could be someone:



- with a learning disability



- with a physical disability (physical means to do with your body)



- with mental health needs



- who has problems seeing, hearing or speaking



- who cannot live alone because of your age.



Who runs the Shared Lives scheme?

Shared Lives carers are hired, trained and supported by our Shared Lives staff at Hampshire County Council.



Shared Lives carers give support and share their homes with the people they care for.



They are carefully chosen members of the public.



Before they can be carers, they are approved by an independent group of people who know all about Shared Lives.



Shared Lives carers are always checked and supported by us.

How is each Shared Lives arrangement paid for?



Shared Lives carers are given a fee for each person they support.

The fee is divided between the person they are caring for and Adult Services.



You will pay the Shared Lives carer:

- rent for your room (usually from Housing Benefit)



- a fixed amount for all of your food and your share of the household bills (from your benefits)



- and sometimes a small amount for your care and support. This will be decided by the Financial Assessments and Benefits team from Adult Services.

Adult Services will pay the carer for your care and support.

What Shared Lives has done for me: real life stories



David

David is 45 and has a learning disability.



Until last year he lived at home with his elderly mother. He also went to a local Day Service for people with a learning disability.



David loves his local football club.



Sadly David's mother became unable to take care of both of them.



David met fellow football supporters Jane and Doug who were also Shared Lives carers.



He stayed with them for the weekend to try out the Shared Lives scheme.



It was really good so David decided to move in with them under the scheme.



David now enjoys going to football matches with Doug.

Betty

Betty is 70 years old but very active.



She became ill because she was not eating well and felt that she could no longer manage on her own.



She went to live in a care home far away from her home town.



After living in the home for a while, she became well again and felt a lot better.



But she did not feel sure about living independently and cooking for herself.





She also missed her family and friends.



Shared Lives carers Sally and Bill offered her a place in her home town.



Betty was glad to be able to move back to her home town.



Sally and Bill give Betty the care and support she needs.



They also cook her healthy food and Betty can see her friends and relatives again.



Would you like to know more about the Shared Lives scheme?

Shared Lives staff are always happy to talk to people who are interested in the scheme.



You can talk to them about Shared Lives for yourself or for someone in your family.

Just call:

Telephone 0845 603 5638

It will cost between 4p and 6p per minute for BT customers.



Calls made using telephone services or mobiles may cost more.



You can also find out more at our website:

www.hants.gov.uk/adult-services/adult-placement

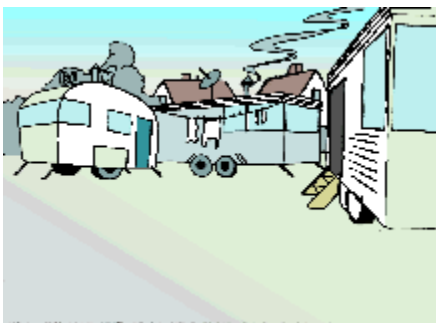


We want to help everyone who can use Shared Lives to get on the scheme.



We will help everyone who has the right to service. It does not matter:

- what race you are



- what background you come from



- whether you are married or not



- whether you are a woman, man or transgender



- what your religion is



- what language you speak



- whether you are gay, straight, lesbian or bisexual.

We can also give you this leaflet in these formats:



- Braille
- audio
- Large print
- another language



Just call **0845 603 5630**

You can also call **01329 225398**

Standard and local call rates apply to this number.



Credits

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