



Self Directed Support moray

Volume 1 : Issue 2

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SDS: My Story - Mrs Helen Smellie

Former Navy servicewoman Ronnie Smellie found herself all at sea when a fall left her stranded.

Retired WREN Ronnie (82) is originally from Edinburgh but now lives alone in Portgordon, near Buckie. She has arthritis in her knee which affects her mobility and arthritis and nerve damage in her hands which can affect her grip. She is also diabetic.

Through her SDS Direct Payment, Ronnie is able to meet her outcomes for continued independent living in the way that's right for her.

Helped by her daughter, Ronnie employs her own carer who comes in every morning to help her get ready for the day.

She told us: *"My carer Fiona Cummings just couldn't be better. She comes in for half an hour to help me with the things I struggle with. I can still manage my personal care but can't manage to dress my lower half."*

"She also takes me shopping and sometimes for a run in the car. She's as good as gold."

It was after Ronnie tripped coming down the stairs and fell onto the tiled floor, breaking her arm, that she realised she needed some support, particularly as she was finding it difficult to get upstairs to the bathroom.

Community Care arranged for a wet room to be installed off her downstairs bedroom and for a community alarm so she can raise the alarm if she falls again and is unable to get up. A raised toilet seat and hand rails fitted to the bed have also been a big help.

"Everyone I have been in touch with has been fantastic. I'm delighted with the help I have now and I know who to speak to if I need anything more," she added.



SDS Working Group

We have arranged for the next working group to be held in two separate localities to encourage more people to attend. The working group gives you the opportunity to engage in discussion with your peers and express your views in relation to SDS. We have decided that it would be beneficial to split the working group to allow Personal Assistant's the opportunity to attend if they wish to do so. The following arrangements have been made for clients/employers/family members:

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday 29th August 2017	11.30am – 1.00pm	Elgin Town Hall, 1 Trinity Place, Elgin, IV30 1UL
Thursday 31st August 2017	11.30am – 1.00pm	Keith Community Hub, 26 Mid Street, Keith, AB56 5AH

We would appreciate if you could make your Personal Assistants aware that following time slots have been made available them to attend if they wish to do so:

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday 29th August 2017	10.00am – 11.30am	Elgin Town Hall, 1 Trinity Place, Elgin, IV30 1UL
Thursday 31st August 2017	10.00am – 11.30am	Keith Community Hub, 26 Mid Street, Keith, AB56 5AH

Could you please contact us on 01343 563420 to confirm whether or not you will be able to attend the working group and specify which locality you will be attending. Tea and coffee will be provided!

Thank you for your co-operation.

Update on SDS Residential Project Pilot

Moray Council has been looking at the use of SDS within a residential setting as part of a Scottish Government funded project for the period June 2015 through to June 2017 and a final report has now been submitted to the Scottish Government. The project wanted to explore the use of the full suite of options within SDS to determine if the use of Option 1, Direct Payments in particular, had an impact on individuals choice and control when living in residential care accommodation.

It became evident that it can sometimes be difficult to meet individuals social and emotional needs in the current climate, and we wanted to explore if SDS could support these individual needs alongside the mechanisms required to achieve this. The current legislation does not permit the use of Direct Payments for those in residential care and the project would help to determine whether a legislative change is

required. Individuals who worked alongside us with the project had the full range of options of SDS available to them, with many choosing to use a Direct Payment to employ Personal Assistants. This enabled them to reconnect with their wider community, which many individuals expressed a desire to do.

We have built close working relationships with the care homes who worked alongside us to explore the options and have gained valuable learning as to how we can work in partnership in the future. East Renfrewshire Council alongside ourselves have now submitted a separate report to the Scottish Government which will help to inform any legislation change.

Should you wish to know more about the project please contact [Michelle Fleming, SDS Officer on 01343 563420](#).

Update on Individual Service Fund (ISF)

An ISF falls under Option 2 of SDS, whereby a third party holds the SDS budget on the individual's behalf. The ISF provider will work with the individual to determine how the agreed outcomes are going to be met, and making the arrangements for the support on the individual's behalf for a fixed management cost from the ISF provider. An ISF should be as close to Option 1 as possible allowing for greater choice, control and flexibility than traditional arranged service.

Over the last two years, Moray Council has been running a pilot project alongside partner providers to explore how this can be implemented and successfully delivered with the support of individuals wanting to try this option.

We are now about to embark on rolling out ISF's to individuals eligible for SDS with the support of Cornerstone, Enable and SPAEN (Scottish Personal Assistant Employers Network); our current ISF providers.

The providers have been working to establish the cost of offering this service, which would be funded from the allocated SDS budget, and we are now in a position to offer this option of SDS to individuals. This will allow them to maintain flexibility and choice, without the need to take a Direct Payment in order to achieve this.

[If you would like to know more about ISF's please contact your allocated Social Worker or contact the SDS Team on 01343 563420.](#)



Direct Payment Reminders - Support in Moray

Moray Personal Support Network

The Moray Personal Support Network aims to bring people together. The Service is aimed at connecting people who need support, with people who can provide support.

Whether you are an individual looking to employ a personal assistant to provide you with support or a Personal Assistant looking for work the website will make your search easier and more efficient from the comfort of your own home.

For more information please contact:
SelfDirectedSupport@moray.gov.uk or Tel: 01343 567144

www.supportinmoray.co.uk



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Personal Assistant Training

Please be advised that your Personal Assistants can now access online training via the Moray Council's e-learning. In order to do so, they will have to be set up with an individual log in. If this is something that your Personal Assistant would be interested in please ask them to contact your direct payment co-ordinator for further information.

There is also further practical training opportunities available for Personal Assistants through Moray Council, including courses such as Adult Support and Protection and Manual Handling Training. Please be advised that there is a cost attached to training courses. Moray Council will only fund training that is deemed to be relevant to the packages that your Personal Assistants are working on. Should you have any queries regarding the relevance of certain training opportunities, please contact your allocated social worker for further information.

Personal Assistant's Annual Leave

As you will be aware your Personal Assistant's annual leave entitlement runs from January – December. Could you please ensure that all holidays are taken prior to the end of December or any such remaining holidays will risk being forfeited.

Please note, it is a breach of working time regulations for employers not to ensure that employees take all of their entitled holidays within the year. The only holidays that may be carried over are holidays that are accrued above the statutory amount. It is your responsibility, as the employer, to ensure that your employee is aware of this and to ensure that they take their leave throughout the year.

The Moray Shared Lives Service is an alternative care provision offering a personalised service which is tailored to an individual's needs and life goals. Care is delivered from the comfort of the carer's own home and services offered can either be day support, respite/short breaks or long term placement.

Moray Shared Lives Service has grown rapidly over the past 6 years. The service now has 30 carers and 94 service users providing 784 hours of care each week!

'Carer always sensitive to my likes and dislikes' - **Service User**

This service is available to adults over the age of 18 years throughout Moray who have an assessed need. The Shared Lives Service can also be accessed by using your Self Directed Support budget.

'Shared Lives gives me the opportunity to go out and keep my independence' - **Service User**

If you are interested in accessing Shared Lives or becoming a Shared Lives Carer and require further information please contact:

The Moray Shared Lives Team on 01343 563450 or email sharedlives@moray.gov.uk

Meet the SDS Team

There have been some changes within the SDS Team that we would like to update you on.

Please see our team:



Contact details for SDS Team:

Michelle Fleming, Self Directed Support Officer: **01343 563420**

Jenny MacIndeor, Assistant Self Directed Support Officer: **01343 563420**

Gwyneth Lewis, Direct Payments Co-ordinator (East): **01343 563423**

Lorraine Taylor, Direct Payments Co-ordinator (West): **01343 563421**

Mairi Annan, SDS Assistant Community Care Officer: **01343 563420**

Carol Milne, Clerical Assistant: **01343 563420**