



## Self Directed Support in Clackmannanshire and Stirling

# Factsheet 2

## Self Directed Support Options

If, after an assessment of need, you are eligible for support from social services, you can choose the best way(s) for this to be arranged. In Scotland these are called the SDS Options.

### Option 1 - Direct Payment

A Direct Payment is a cash payment, paid into a separate bank account, for you to decide the best way to arrange your support. Two main ways you might use a Direct Payment are:

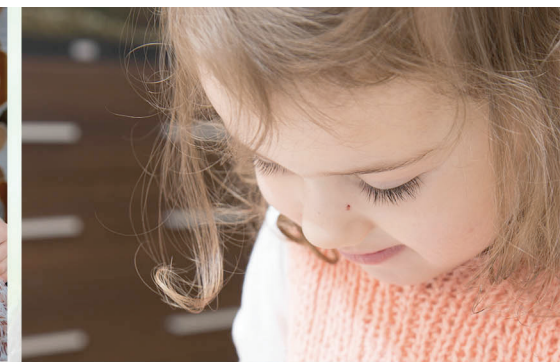
- a) **To arrange support staff from a care agency.** You decide the agency and agree with that agency when and how your support will be provided. You agree (with the agency) the cost(s) of services and use the money from the Direct Payment to pay that agency for the service(s) they provide.
- b) **To employ your own staff to support you.** You choose to become an employer of your support staff. You can receive help to arrange this, including help to advertise, interview and select suitable staff and then to become their employer.

You will be required to (and can receive support to): Provide your employees with terms and conditions; to pay their wages; to obtain insurances and to plan cover in the event of staff illness and/or holidays.

You should make sure your employees are the right people to support you. Disclosure Scotland has a Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme to help you with this.

You can receive as much support as you need to manage your Direct Payment. Self Directed Support Forth Valley (SDSFV) is a local independent support organisation that can help manage your Direct Payment, arrange support from a care agency or help you employ your own staff.

SDSFV can be contacted at [info@sdsforthvalley.co.uk](mailto:info@sdsforthvalley.co.uk) or on **01324 508794**.





## Option 2 - Individual Service Fund, Directing the Available Support

This gives you choices and control around directing which support provider you want and how you want to be supported.

With this option you can ask social services to hold your budget for support. You then instruct them how you wish to spend this. Alternatively you can ask that your budget is transferred to an agency (for example a care provider) and again you instruct that agency how you wish to spend the money to achieve your outcomes.

## Option 3 - Arranged Service

At your request social services will take responsibility for organising support on your behalf. You must still be consulted about how best to arrange this and also your preferences on who provides this

## Option 4 - Combined Support

You can use any combination of the three options. For example, you may wish to employ a personal assistant to help you get to a social event, **Option 1**. You may also have the social services organise a provider to help you with your personal care, **Option 3**.

## What amount of money will be available to meet my outcomes?

If you are eligible to receive social care support, the information from your assessment helps social services work out an estimate of the amount of money you need to achieve your outcomes. This is called this an "estimated budget".

After planning your support you might find that you can achieve your outcomes using less money. Then your final budget will be less than your estimated budget

## What if I don't agree with the estimated budget?

The estimated budget will be right in most cases. You should aim to build your support plan with that amount of money. However your final budget will not be confirmed until your support plan is decided and approved, so there is still time for adjustment.

## Get in touch

If you or your representative would like more information, please contact us

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