

Shared Lives: unlocking the potential



Karl and Clare with Shared Lives carers Blossom and Mike, at their wedding, before moving to live independently

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www.SharedLivesPlus.org.uk



SharedLivesPlus

communitycatalysts
unlocking potential effecting change

www.SharedLivesPlus.org.uk
www.communitycatalysts.co.uk

Who are we?

Shared Lives Plus is the UK network for family-based and small-scale ways of supporting adults. Our members are Shared Lives carers and the local schemes which coordinate their work, as well as the UK's Homeshare programmes.

Shared Lives Plus was established in 1992 and has 5,000 members UK-wide.

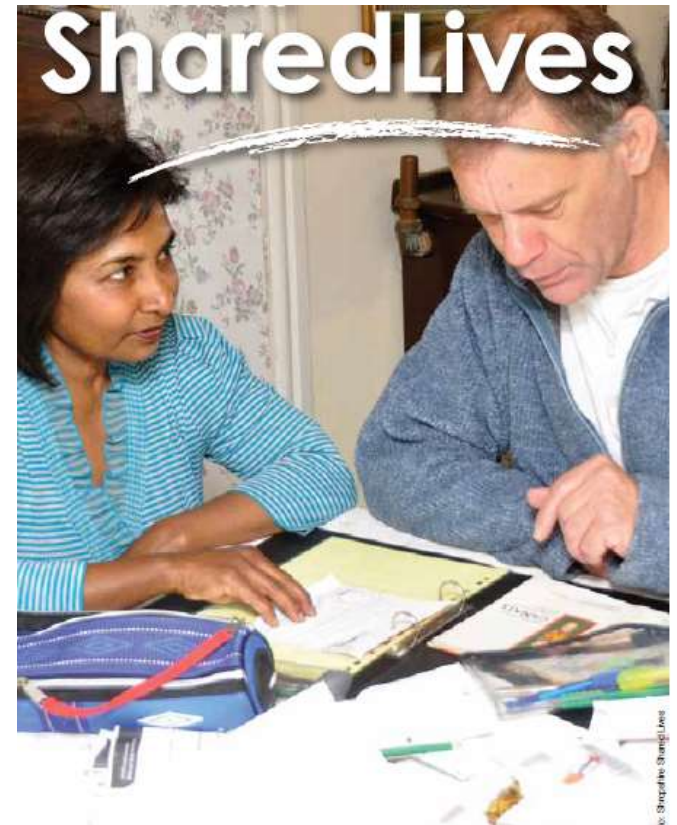
Shared Lives is used by 12,000 people UK-wide.

Community Catalysts: our sister Community Interest Company.

Sharing home and family life.

- The Shared Lives carer's house feels like a family home.
- Participants share home and family life, either living together or through the adult visiting their Shared Lives carer regularly.
- Organised by 150 registered local schemes who recruit, train, support and monitor Shared Lives carers.

“You see people grow - they blossom.”



The role of the scheme.

- The scheme recruits, trains, approves, supports & monitors local Shared Lives carers.
- The scheme ensures compliance with CQC care inspections and housing and insurance regulations and requirements.
- The registered manager of the scheme is ultimately responsible for quality and safety of care.
- The scheme matches participants and provides alternative support where a match ends, ensuring continuity of care.
- Shared Lives carers are self-employed, not employed by the service user (who may use personal budget/ Direct Payment).

Shared Lives carer assessment and approval

Rigorous 3-6 month assessment and approval process.
Looks for skills, values, attitudes and knowledge.
Considers housing and rest of household.

- Pre application meeting
- Application & interview
- ID checks, DBS, references
- Pre- & post-approval training
- Approval process
- Approval panel



The matching process

- Participants are matched into real relationships.
- People get to know each other before both parties agree to a long term support arrangement.
- Matching can take time, but pays dividends in exceptionally stable relationships and added value.
- Providing short breaks as well as long term support helps with matching and achieving early returns on investment.

“It’s like extending your own family.” (*Family carer using Shared Lives for short breaks*)

“The whole village is helping – but in a natural way.”

The Shared Lives carer role

- Sharing home and family (and/or community) life.
- Provide ‘professional’ care but also treat the individual as ‘one of the family’: meals, parties, social life, holidays.
- No more than three individuals at one time.
- Self-employed and may not employ workers.
- Trained and paid, but not by the hour: also do a lot unpaid.
- Involve family members and friends, mainly unpaid.
- ‘Support carers’: can be family members, paid or unpaid.
- Four weeks of paid breaks p.a.

Monitoring and safeguarding

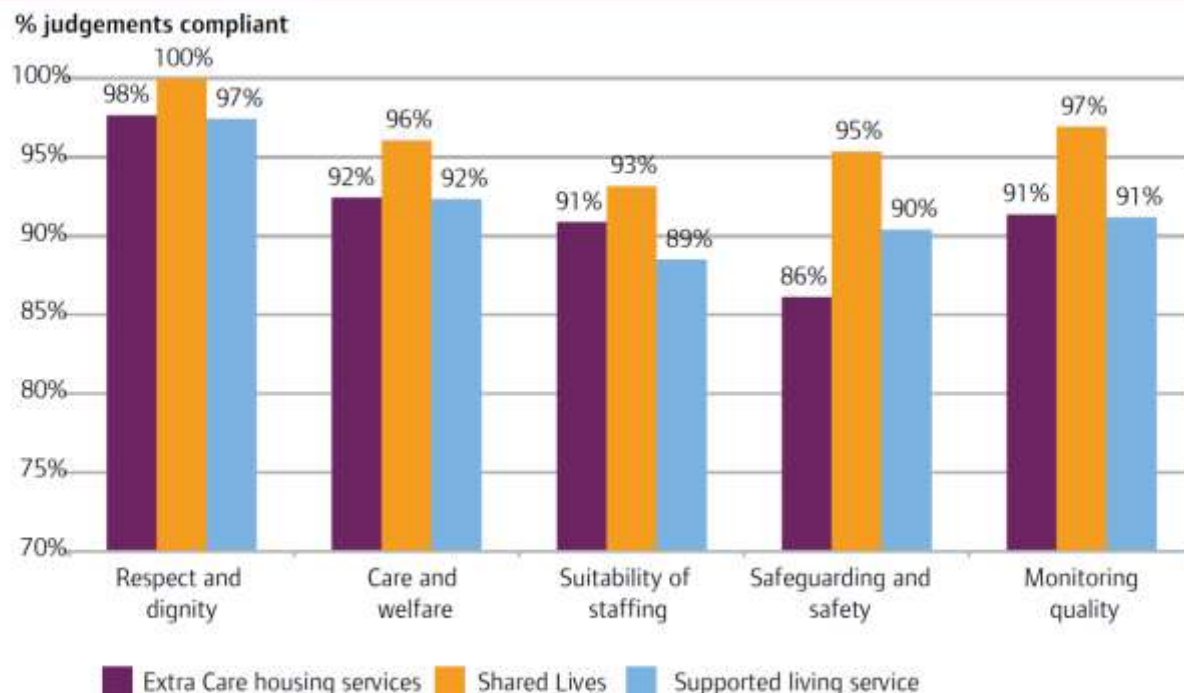
- Each coordinator in a local Shared Lives scheme supports around 25 arrangements.
- Monitoring varies: around a visit a month, plus phone calls.
- Training sessions and group work.
- We are building local and national peer support between Shared Lives carers: they can be isolated.
- Safeguarding issues can trigger removal (should require a court order) and de-approval process.
- Local scheme responsible for safety and continuity of care.

Inspection results

Shared Lives outperforms all other forms of regulated care across all five areas of inspection.

- Safe
- Effective
- Caring
- Responsive
- Well-led

FIGURE 2.10: PERFORMANCE AGAINST QUALITY STANDARDS FOR DIFFERENT SERVICES WITHIN COMMUNITY SOCIAL CARE 2013/14



What do people who use Shared Lives say....

Where I live now is the best place I have ever lived. I have my freedom but I know people care about me and I feel safe.

Shared Lives is when you live with a family or one carer in their home and they help and support you with what you need.



A chance to have a life with their family.

I love everything about my life with my carers, now I feel like I belong to a family.

When I moved into shared lives my carers saved my life, I was depressed and being bullied before I went to live with them. Now I feel so much better.

Shared Lives: outcomes

‘Firsts’ for 500 individuals using Shared Lives:

- 35% learned a household task
- First ever holiday: 30% (UK) 16% (abroad)
- First boyfriend/girlfriend: 12%
- 26% joined a club not exclusively for disabled people.
- Almost all made friends.
- 34% of service users had made five or more new friends.



Shared Lives funding

The payment to a long term Shared Lives carer is:

- An accommodation payment (from housing benefit)
- Payment for board & utilities (from person's benefits). Typical: £40 p.w.
- Payment for care (from social care budget). £150-450pw. Av. £240pw

Cost of service to council or NHS:

- Payment to Shared Lives carer, including cost of 28 days (minimum) breaks (less any contribution under Fairer Charging)
- Cost of any additional day services the person requires
- Scheme costs (range from £90-£125 pw), including:
 - One coordinator per 25 long term arrangements (more short breaks)
 - Recruiting, vetting, training, approving, supporting carers
 - Marketing, overheads etc

Shared Lives carers are self-employed and get a tax break.

Shared Lives: short breaks

- Rose is Vera's daughter, and she cares for Vera full time within her own home
- Rose needs support and breaks
- Neither keen on a day centre
- Wanted flexibility - where Vera can go for a few hours or a few days

Shared Lives South West

<http://sharedlivessw.org.uk>



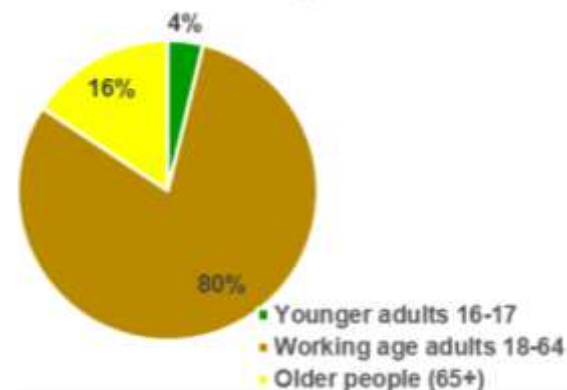
Shared Lives UK statistics

- In England, 8090 Shared Lives carers support 10,580 individuals.
- In Wales: 512 Shared Lives households, support 751 different individuals via 1,423 support arrangements.
- In Scotland: 550 Shared Lives carers support 1130 people.
- In N. Ireland: 200 Shared Lives carers support 154 people.
- This adds up to around 12,500 people supported in UK.
- 153 independent local schemes, of which around 66% are run by councils, 33% (and rising) by the Third Sector.

Shared Lives in England

In England, primary (not sole) reason for support:

- 7310 (69%) have a learning disability
 - 1240(12%)have another support need associated with old age
 - 880 (8%) have a mental health issue
 - 400 (4%) have a physical impairment
 - 240 (2%) are people living with dementia
-
- 400 (4%) were aged 16 or 17
 - 8520 (80%) were aged 18-64
 - 1600 (16%) were aged 65+



Shared Lives savings in three local authorities in 2013

- Average net savings from a long-term Shared Lives arrangement per-person per year are **£26,000** (learning disabilities) and **£8,000** (mental health).
- Expanding a scheme by 75 arrangements (50 for people with learning disabilities; 25 mental health needs), requires around £250,000 of up-front investment and should generate savings of c£1.5 million pa once capacity reached.

Source Social Finance *Shared Lives* July 2013

We are developing Shared Lives for:

- young disabled people in transition to adulthood
- care leavers
- people in acute phase of mental ill-health
- offenders and ex-offenders
- people at risk of homelessness
- parents with learning disabilities and their children
- women with learning disabilities fleeing violence
- intermediate care and 'reablement'

Contact details

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THE UK NETWORK FOR SMALL COMMUNITY SERVICES

