



## **ADULT AND OLDER PEOPLE COMMUNITY CARE**



**Carers of West Lothian**

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Scottish Charity SC019628 | Company Limited by Guarantee Company Number SC226434

## ADULT AND OLDER PEOPLE COMMUNITY CARE

### WHAT IS COMMUNITY CARE?

Community care seeks to support individuals to live at home independently, safely and for as long as possible by providing them with help and support.

### WHAT SORT OF HELP MAY BE AVAILABLE?

- Help with personal care
- Provision of meals
- Medication prompts
- Day care provision
- Social Inclusion
- Equipment and house adaptations
- Respite, short breaks and breaks from caring

### HOW TO REQUEST AN ASSESSMENT

Anyone can contact Social Work to make a referral. An individual can self-refer or a relative, carer, friend, GP or other professional can make contact on their behalf.

At the initial point of contact, an assessment will begin where information will be gathered about the person being referred, to understand what their needs are and establish their eligibility for support.

It may be necessary to arrange a visit to gather more information, in some cases more than one visit may be needed. During an assessment, the person being assessed may wish to have someone present with them.

As care needs, outcomes and eligibility are identified, social work will discuss the full choice of options that are available to best meet those care needs and outcomes. If someone has been assessed as having eligible needs at substantial or critical, services are offered through Self Directed Support.

If the assessment identifies that the individual is not eligible to receive paid care the Council will provide information and advice and will signpost to another service that can help the assessed person maintain their independence.

For further information, or to make a referral: phone **01506 284848** email [adultsocialcare@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:adultsocialcare@westlothian.gov.uk) visit [www.westlothianchcp.org.uk](http://www.westlothianchcp.org.uk)

From the 1st October 2018 West Lothian Council introduced the application of eligibility criteria and policy on contributions for non-residential services which apply to adults and older people receiving or looking to receive services.

### ELIGIBILITY FOR COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

The Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 requires West Lothian Council to ensure resources are available to meet assessed eligible needs to a standard which will satisfy the Council that the person's eligible needs are being met.

West Lothian Council have a duty to assess any adult (person over 18 years of age) who they believe may need community care services. The assessment of needs is used to determine whether a social care service is required to be put in place to meet those needs in line with eligibility for services.

This policy applies to all community care services across adults and older people including occupational therapy assessments for aids and adaptations across all tenure. The assessment process and the eligibility criteria focus on risk to independent living and wellbeing.

## CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY FOR COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

West Lothian Council supports individuals to live at home independently, safely and for as long as possible. Everyone who undertakes an outcome-based assessment of needs will be financially assessed to determine whether they should make a financial contribution towards the cost of their assessed, non-residential care and support services.

A contribution towards the cost of eligible care and support plan may apply if someone receives services from the council now or in the future and applies whether the service is provided by the council or purchased / arranged from an external provider.

A financial assessment will be undertaken for an individual where they are assessed as requiring eligible care and support services.

**The council's policy exempts the cost of personal and nursing care for everyone from its effective date of 1 October 2018 meaning no one will be charged for this personal care.**

For more information on West Lothian Council's eligibility and contributions policy:

Visit [www.westlothianhchcp.org.uk](http://www.westlothianhchcp.org.uk); Call local social work services on **01506 284848**;

or contact Carers of West Lothian on **01506 448000**.

## SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORT

Self-directed support (SDS) aims to help individuals get the right support by giving them more choice and control over how their support needs are met and by whom. SDS is for anyone who has been assessed as eligible for social care support from the council and includes adults, older people, children, families and carers.

If an individual is assessed by the council as being eligible for social care services or support, the council will tell them the amount of money available to meet their needs and outcomes. They will be offered a choice of how they would like their support to be arranged.

There are 4 options for SDS which means they can choose to have the amount of control over their care and support that feels right for them:

- Direct Payment (a cash payment);
- Funding allocated to a provider of the person's choice (council holds the budget, but the person oversees how it is spent)
- The council can arrange a service for the person
- Person chooses a mix of these options for different types of support.

For more information on SDS visit:

[www.selfdirectedsupportscotland.org.uk](http://www.selfdirectedsupportscotland.org.uk) or [www.westlothian.gov.uk/social\\_health/selfdirectedsupport/](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/social_health/selfdirectedsupport/)

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## SUPPORT TO SET UP AND MANAGE SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

### **Lothian Centre for Inclusive Living (LCiL)**

Norton Park Centre, 57 Albion Road, Edinburgh EH7 5QY

Tel: 0131 475 2350 West Lothian Tel: 0749564 2345

Web: [www.lothiancil.org.uk](http://www.lothiancil.org.uk)

Email: [Westilt@lothiancil.org.uk](mailto:Westilt@lothiancil.org.uk)

### **The Scottish Personal Assistant Employers Network (SPAEN)**

Suite 24, Evans Business Centre, Belgrave Street, Bellshill, ML4 3NP

Tel: 0845 601 1156

Email: [Info@spaen.co.uk](mailto:Info@spaen.co.uk)

Website: [www.spaen.co.uk](http://www.spaen.co.uk)