SOCIAL CARE SUPPORT
An investment in Scotland’s people, society, and economy

OUR SHARED VISION FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE SUPPORT, INCLUDING SUPPORT FOR CARERS
EASY READ

A partnership programme to support local reform of adult social care

June 2019
Our shared vision describes what adult social care support will look like in the future in Scotland.

At the moment, there are challenges to making the changes. The aim of the reform programme is to help overcome these challenges and support the changes needed to achieve the vision.

The vision is made up of statements. The statements are organised into five groups.

The first group describes how we will value and understand adult social care support.
It says all social care support in Scotland will be based on human rights. It applies to the statements in all the groups.

The second group describes how people will access support.

The third group describes the way people will be supported.

The fourth group says how our systems and processes will work and be organised. It also says how decisions will be made.

The fifth group describes how people’s experiences will be consistent across Scotland.
The way we value and understand social care support

- Social care support is an investment in Scotland’s people, economy and society.
- It respects and protects everybody’s rights.
- All parts of it are person-led.
- It supports quality of life and citizenship. That includes
  - being connected with others,
  - our right to be involved in the community,
  - our right to a family life and
  - for carers to have breaks and a life beyond caring.
- It supports people to live independently.
• It is a mix of formal and informal supports and networks.

**Formal support** might include information, advice or support from social work, an agency or provider or personal assistant.

It can also be assistive technology, specific adaptations or equipment.

**Informal support** might be support from friends or family, community clubs and activities or everyday technology.
• It is one part of a bigger network of supports and services that work together.

• Investment in social care support matches its important role in the whole system of supports and services in Scotland.
The way people access support

- People get support before they reach crisis point. Support happens early enough to stop problems happening or getting worse. They think about what their needs may be in the future and are supported to plan for it.

- People have all of the information they need to make informed decisions and choices about their care and support. This includes the full range of creative options.

It includes knowing the budget available to them.
• The information is clear and easy to understand.

• People have the right support to make their decisions. People are trusted to know what’s right for them.

• Carers’ skills and knowledge about the person they care for are taken into account in decisions. Their ability and willingness to care is also included in decisions.
• Social care support arrangements work for a person and their individual needs. They are flexible and change as the person’s needs do. They work for how the person wants to live their life and what they want to achieve.

• They see carers’ needs and everyone’s right to family life.

• The range of support options works for the different needs that different people have and different situations.
People experience respect and kindness at every stage in the journey – not only when they are receiving social care support. People who work in the system and carers also experience respect and kindness.
The way people are supported

- Social care support recognises a person’s individual goals, skills, abilities, limits and potential. It makes the most of and support a person’s strengths.

- It recognises that what a person can do can change over time.

- It works well.

- There are different options for formal and informal social care support.

- We recognise and value support options by how they support a person to do what is important to them.
• People who work in social work and social care support are respected and valued for what they do.

• They feel good about what they do and are able to make decisions.

• People, their carers and families, or their other social friendships and connections, have the right training and tools to be able to manage their social care support in the way they want to.
Our systems, processes and decision making

- All people getting information, advice, care and support are respected and valued.

- National and local policies are created with the people of Scotland. This means people who use social care support, carers, the wider community and people who work in social work and social care support.

- This also happens for systems and processes.

- These are all based on evidence. Evidence means facts or examples.
• People who use support, the wider community and people who work in the health and social care system are involved in making decisions.

• This includes decisions about the most important things to do and how money is spent.

• Their voices and opinions are valued and taken seriously. This shows in the decisions that are made.
• People organising and carrying out social care support work together with other services and supports to achieve the best outcomes.

• This might include community workers, mental health practitioners, GPs, nurses, hospitals, therapists, and others.

• It also means communities and other supports like housing services, transport services, and others.

• It means both formal and informal supports.
• It is clear how things work and the reasons for decisions that are made.
• People know what they can expect.
• It is clear who the people in the system are who are responsible for making sure things work in the right way. They make changes if something is not right.
Our support across Scotland

- People’s needs are recognised equally wherever they are in Scotland. These needs are recorded.

- People’s experiences are consistent across Scotland. This means they get the same quality and level of support across Scotland even if it is provided differently in different areas.

- People are confident that they can move to a different Council area and receive the right support.
• The system helps it to be as easy as possible to do this.

• Communities benefit from social care support.

• Social care support benefits from communities.

• This shared vision happens in every area in Scotland.

Made with photosymbols.
The following partners have worked together to develop these documents:

Care Inspectorate
Coalition of Care Providers in Scotland (CCPS)
COSLA
Health and Social Care Scotland
IHub at Healthcare Improvement Scotland
Independent Living Fund Scotland
Scotland Excel
Scottish Care
Scottish Government
Scottish Social Services Council
Social Work Scotland
People-led Policy Panel
Unison for Scottish Trade Union Congress