



# Shared Lives has people who can support you

Information for adults with disabilities  
about the Shared Lives Service

# What is Shared Lives?

Shared Lives Services are all about households sharing their lives, families, home, interests, experience and skills with people who need some help and support to live their lives to the full.

We offer long term support, short breaks and daytime support in and from the homes of local families. We support a wide range of people, including:

- Adults with learning disabilities.
- Older persons.
- Adults with mental health conditions.
- Adults with physical and sensory disabilities.
- Adults with dementia.
- Adults with drug and alcohol dependency.

The Shared Lives Service is registered with and inspected by the Social Care Regulator, the Care Quality Commission (CQC). To find out more about this visit their website at [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk).

## Shared Lives Carers

- Our carers are skilled, experienced, trained and committed individuals who have chosen to share their homes and lives with others.
- Shared Lives Carers are all approved and monitored by our Shared Lives Development Workers. We carry out police checks and take up references from previous employers and medical professionals.
- A detailed assessment of the carer's skills and abilities is carried out by our qualified Development Workers. It takes around 6 months for carers to be assessed and approved to provide services and the decision whether to approve carers is made by the Shared Lives panel.

- Our carers are people from a range of different backgrounds. We work to ensure that people are matched with carers they like and get along with.
- Shared Lives Carers live in different locations across Leicestershire and live in a range of different properties such as bungalows, farm houses, town houses and flats.
- Our carers are paid for the services they provide.

## Arranging your services

- We make sure that our Shared Lives Carers understand your needs and try to meet these during your stay. These could include:
  - » helping with personal care;
  - » providing emotional support;
  - » encouraging independent living skills;
  - » joining in leisure activities.
- We ensure that introductions are arranged, so you can meet the carer(s), view the carer's home and discuss the support you need.
- Dates and times are only agreed once everyone is happy with the arrangements.

## Money matters

Please ask for more information on the cost of using Shared Lives Services.

This can vary according to the level of support you need, and will also depend on your income and savings.

## How to get in touch

Speak to your allocated social care worker or contact Leicestershire County Council's Customer Service Centre on 0116 305 0004.

You will be able to discuss your request further and they will be able to tell you if you can use the service.

**[www.leics.gov.uk/sharedlives](http://www.leics.gov.uk/sharedlives)**

## Shared Lives Service

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