



What is Shared Lives?

Shared Lives South West is an award-winning, independent organisation.

Services are based on a SLSW Carer sharing their home, family life and their interests with someone with support needs. It's like adult fostering.

SLSW Carers open their own home to someone for either a long term or short break arrangement.

Our Carers can support a person with all aspects of their life from cooking, becoming part of the local community to realising their aspirations and dreams.

This personalised service is one of the most highly-rated forms of social care available in the UK.

Shared Lives South West was set up in 2004 and covers Devon, Torbay, Plymouth, Cornwall and Somerset.



Let's talk

Cornwall

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Devon

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T 01626 360170
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Somerset

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Visit our website to watch videos of our carers talking about their role



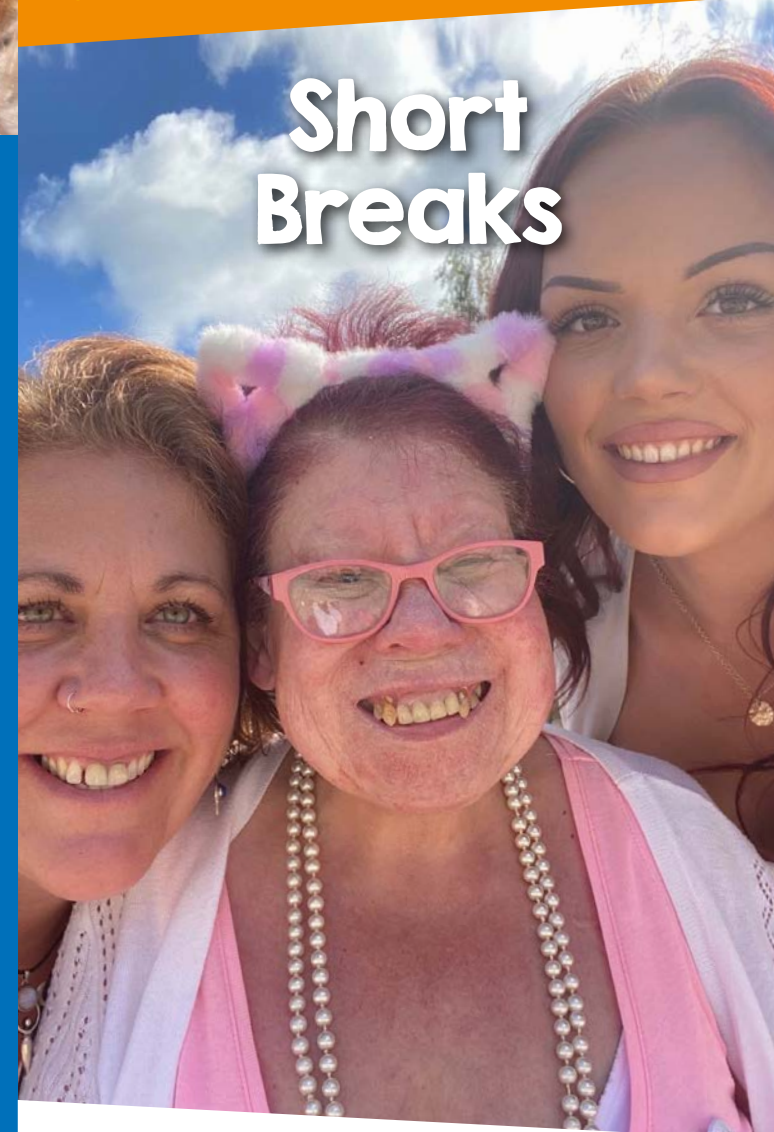
www.sharedlivessw.org.uk

Email: enquiries@sharedlivessw.org.uk

Shared Lives South West is a registered charity, number 1104699.
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Share your home. Share your life.



Short Breaks





Short Break Service

SLSW Carers

Our short break service offers people with support needs the chance to enjoy a stay within a family setting at one of our approved Shared Lives South West Carer's homes while enabling the main carer to take a break from their caring role.

We can provide short breaks from an overnight stay up to 28 nights, sometimes longer. We also offer daytime breaks with some of our carers including enabling support.

Our SLSW Carers provide a variety of activities and experiences that the person can join in with as well as support to pursue their own hobbies or try something completely new.

All SLSW Carers have been through an assessment process and are DBS checked. They are approved by an independent panel and are supported and monitored by a skilled staff team at SLSW.

One of our key roles is to match up the wishes and needs of the individual with a suitable SLSW Carer.

We will collect information from the person and their family/main carer in advance to ensure the best match possible. We will then arrange a "cup of tea visit" to our SLSW Carer's home so everyone can decide if it is the right match. During any short break, the SLSW Carer will ensure the person feels comfortable and welcome by including them in all aspects of family life.

Our SLSW Carers are chosen for their care experience, knowledge, skills and person-centred values. By sharing all this, they hope to support people to achieve their own goals and aspirations.

SLSW Carers receive individual support from an experienced social care worker employed by Shared Lives South West. Each worker supports a number of carers through visits and telephone support. They also manage the matching process and work with the person having the break and the SLSW Carer to identify any outcomes the person wishes to achieve during their stay.

A quote from Lucy who uses our Short Break service:

"I really enjoy staying with Alex and Greg. At first I was nervous, but now we have got to know each other. We do lots of fun things like, we go on trips out and take the dogs out for walks.

This respite is helping me become more independent as I have jobs to do such as ironing, washing, cooking and making my bed.

I am away from home with people that are not family which helps me develop more confidence and I feel happy that I can do this."

Funding

Funding towards a short break may be provided by the local authority either direct to SLSW or through a direct payment to the person using the service.

You would need to discuss this with your social worker or the local community team. Breaks can also be self-funded.

We have short breaks available across Cornwall, Devon and Somerset in a wide variety of settings including coastal resorts, in towns and in beautiful rural locations.

Please visit www.sharedlivessw.org.uk for more information on the cost of Shared Lives South West services.

