



What is Shared Lives?

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

Services focus on one household sharing their home, family life and their interests with someone with support needs. It's like adult fostering.

SLSW carer's open their own home to someone needing support. They either move in with the carer or enjoy a short break. SLSW Carers help with all aspects of life from cooking, to being 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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Somerset

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



www.sharedlivessw.org.uk

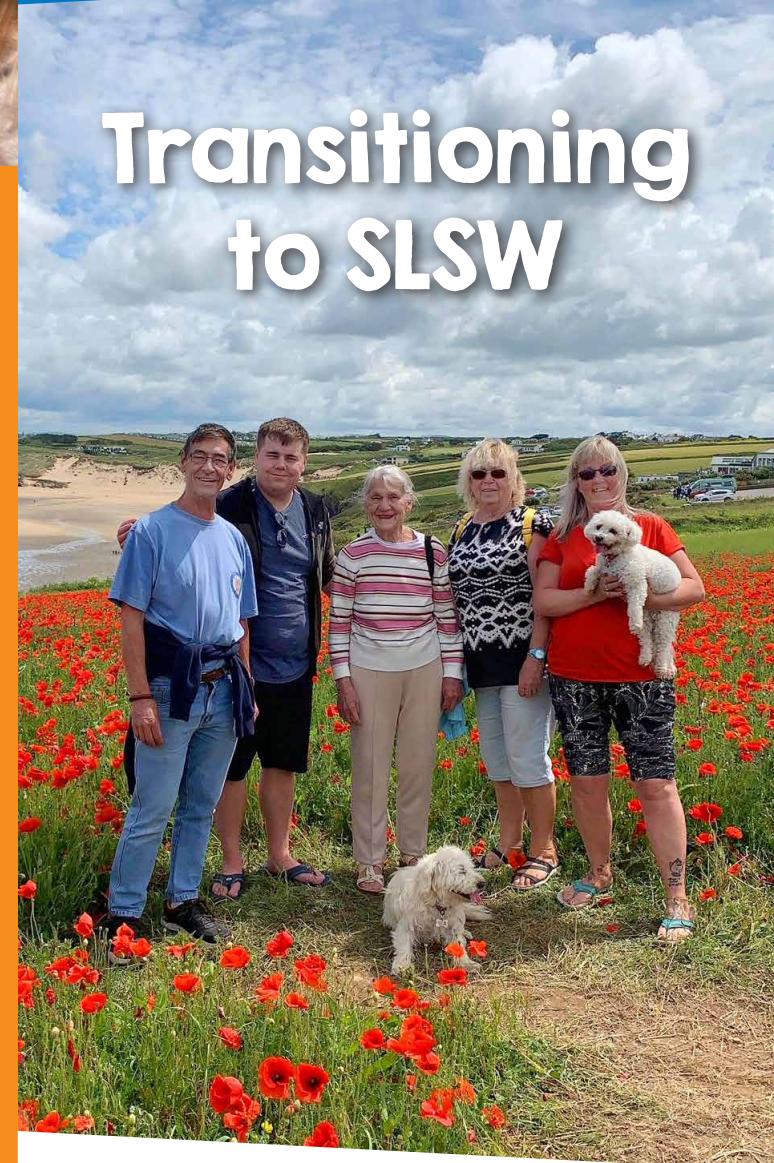
Email: enquiries@sharedlivessw.org.uk

Shared Lives South West is a registered charity, number 1104699.
Registered in England and Wales, number 5025213



Share your home.
Share your life.

Transitioning to SLSW





We know that it can be a daunting process moving from Children's Services to Adult Services, but at SLSW we're here for you every step of the way.

What support will I get from SLSW

Once carers are approved as SLSW Carers and a placement is made, SLSW Carers receive regular support and supervision from a dedicated Shared Lives worker.

During the initial approval, or placement period there will be regular contact. Contacts continue throughout the placement.

SLSW Carers also have a yearly appraisal when insurance, driving documents and health and safety issues and documents are checked. DBS checks are undertaken every three years.

Training

Shared Lives South West recognise that training and development is essential for ensuring that SLSW Carers have the necessary skills and knowledge to provide safe and effective placements for the individuals we support. SLSW will develop and deliver in-house training that is reflective of the unique requirements of providing Shared Lives placements, offered free of charge to all carers to ensure financial considerations are not a barrier to carer development.

What training does SLSW expect me to complete as a carer?

- 🏠 Introduction to Shared Lives
- 🏠 Safeguarding Adults
- 🏠 Mental Capacity Act
- 🏠 Health & Safety
- 🏠 Medication
- 🏠 Person Centred Approaches and Human Rights
- 🏠 Communication
- 🏠 Finance
- 🏠 Equality and Diversity



How often do I have to complete training?

SLSW recognise that some training should be regularly refreshed, to ensure the skills and knowledge of the carer are continuously updated. As such, every three years carers are expected to refresh Safeguarding Adults, Equality and Diversity, Health and Safety, Medication, Mental Capacity Act and First Aid Training.

Transferring over to SLSW

In principle, if a person has been approved as a foster carer, they should have little difficulty being approved as a SLSW Carer.

The process of transferring from fostering to a Shared Lives arrangement can appear to be a complex and confusing process, but we try to make it as straight forward as we can and the SLSW team is here to help.

Fostering regulations are closely related to Shared Lives regulations. Whilst foster carers will need to undergo a full assessment to be approved as SLSW Carers, the training and assessment previously undertaken, when being approved as foster carers, will help to evidence meeting the Shared Lives criteria.

You will find some frequently asked questions from SLSW Carers on our website, visit:

www.sharedlivessw.org.uk/become-a-carer

If you have your own questions, please contact our friendly team on 01626 360170.

