

West Lothian Council SNP Group

Leader: Cllr Janet Campbell
Depute Leader: Cllr Robert De Bold
Secretary: Cllr Mary Dickson

Dico Tibi Verum, Libertas Optima Rerum Nunquam Servili!



West Lothian Council Meeting Tuesday 23rd January 2024

Agenda Item 19

QUESTIONS TO EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR FOR SOCIAL CARE

Self-Directed Support (SDS) is about putting people in control of the support they need to live the life that they choose. It is how health and social care support has been delivered since April 2014 and is underpinned by legislation giving individuals the right to choose their own care and support. This legislation is Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013. The options for Self-Directed Support are as follows:

- Option 1 – a direct payment, which is a payment to an individual or a third party to pay for personal support.
- Option 2 – the individual directs the available support.
- Option 3 – the local council arranges the support.
- Option 4 – a combination of the above.

According to the above Act, a local authority is placed under a duty to provide information about other persons or organisations outwith the authority who can provide assistance or information about the options and how to manage them. Section 9 of the 2013 Act ascribes a range of duties in relation to the social worker's provision of information and support to any adult, child or carer who might need it. Section 19 of the 2013 Act also states that authorities must "*in so far as is reasonably practicable*" promote (a) "*a variety of providers of support*" and (b) "*the variety of support provided by it and other providers.*"

Question 1

What **Independent** initial and continuing support and advice is available to people and their families in West Lothian aimed at helping them to select and navigate the most appropriate package of care?

Question 2

In the context of Self-Directed Care, what **independent**, specialist, advice services are available for the following groups:

- Disabled people
- Children and their families
- Adult carers
- Young carers
- Any other adult needing support e.g. those with drug or alcohol addictions and / or mental health issues

Dr Moira Shemilt

Councillor for Livingston South Ward (SNP)

Received on 8 Jan 2024 at 9:15am