People using the service have said:

“I like to go for walks in the countryside, which is nice with the dogs. I like going to the local café lunch”.

“We have a good laugh, I like going out to restaurants, takeaways. My bedroom is being decorated and it looks really nice”.

“I go shopping, buy new clothes, clean my room, help make the dinner and save money”.

“I enjoy going to the pub with my Shared Lives Carers, meeting new people and watching and listening to live bands”.

Relatives of people who use our service have told us:

“I am very pleased with the Shared Lives Carers they couldn’t be more helpful with me and my son. His communication and confidence is better, his living skills are much improved. I couldn’t ask for a nicer couple to care for my son”.

“I can’t think of any service improvements at all. If there was a gold medal for commitment they should be awarded.”

Shared Lives Carers have told us:

“Shared Lives has enriched our lives and also the lives of our families and those around us. Our household is always full of fun and laughter”.

“Our experience of Shared Lives can be summed up in one word – brilliant”.

“The Shared Lives Worker is very skilled knowledgeable and professional. The relationship between us is built on mutual respect”.

“The Scheme is extremely helpful in anything I have queried or asked for. Such as; help and advice, if the Shared Lives Worker says they are going to do something they do, which in this hectic world is a rare commodity”.

Do you want to know more?

Have a chat to one of the Shared Lives team between 9am-5pm, by calling 01444 254463.

Or email the Scheme Manager Jo.Braine@westsussex.gov.uk

Visit www.westsussex.gov.uk/sharedlives to apply to become a Shared Lives Carer or to find more information about the scheme.

To find out about the Shared Lives Scheme and how to become a Shared Lives Carer visit www.westsussex.gov.uk/sharedlives or call 01444 254463 for a chat with a member of the Shared Live team.

www.westsussex.gov.uk/sharedlives
Who are we?

We are the West Sussex County Council Shared Lives Scheme. We manage a service that recruits, assesses, trains, monitors and supports approved Shared Lives Carers to provide a range of accommodation, care and support using their own home as a resource and who share their own lives with individuals who need care and support.

How does the service work?

The Shared Lives Scheme is registered, regulated and inspected with the Care Quality Commission and is able to provide ‘personal care’.

Shared Lives Carers are approved members of the Shared Lives Scheme and offer a range of services including:

- Respite or short-term accommodation with care and support.
- Long-term accommodation with care and support.
- Day time support known as Day Share (using the Shared Lives Carers own home as a base and spending time in the community).

If a person lives in a Shared Lives Carers’ own home on a long or short-term basis, they would have the privacy of their own room. They would share the day to day lives of the Shared Lives Carer and their families and join in community life. They would also be supported and encouraged to make their own choices and live as independently and safely as possible.

The Shared Lives Carer will own or rent their own property and are paid for their care, support, accommodation, utilities and food.

Role of the Shared Lives Carer

Shared Lives Carers are from all walks of life. Some have professional qualifications and a background of working within a health and social care setting, but there are Shared Lives Carers who also have personal experience that they can bring to the role.

Shared Lives Carers are responsible for balancing the needs and lifestyles of everyone in their household. The Shared Lives Carer will understand and respect confidentiality and the rights to privacy to the people they support.

Shared Lives Carers will build positive relationships with the people who are matched with them and the important people in their lives. They will get involved and support people’s independence, through working together in all aspects of day to day life.

The Shared Lives Carers will provide a healthy and safe place to stay. They will support people to maintain and develop their independence safely, support people to access community services and facilities and follow relevant policies and procedures. They will also maintain the required learning and development needed to be a Carer.

Shared Lives Carers will work in partnership with the Shared Lives Scheme by meeting regularly with the Shared Lives worker, other professionals and people involved within the person’s life.

Role of the Shared Lives Scheme

The Shared Lives Scheme is a team of qualified staff who are employed by West Sussex County Council and are responsible for recruiting, assessing, training, monitoring and supporting the self-employed, Shared Lives Carers. The Shared Lives Carers are provided with regular supervision, advice, guidance and are regularly monitored and reviewed.

www.westsussex.gov.uk/sharedlives