

THE SCOTTISH BORDERS BASELINE ANALYSIS & EXPANSION MODELLING

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1. Introduction

Shared Lives is a regulated form of social care which has historically been used primarily for people with learning disabilities. In Shared Lives, an adult who needs support or accommodation is matched with an approved Shared Lives carer, who supports and includes the individual in their family and community life.

There are 14 Shared Lives schemes operating in Scotland, half of the schemes are run by local authorities and the remainder are delivered by five independent providers. The Shared Lives sector in the UK has seen 31%¹ growth over three years, despite downward pressures on Social Care, resulting in 11,570 people benefitting from being part of family life across the UK. Scotland has made a significant contribution to this achieving 14% growth in the past 12 months alone².

The positive outcomes experienced by people using Shared Lives is reflected in 73% of schemes rated as 'very good' or 'excellent' by the Care Inspectorate. 100% of schemes in Scotland are rated 'good' or higher making it the best performing type of regulated social care provision in Scotland.

Cost analysis undertaken by Shared Lives Plus to compare the average costs of Shared Lives arrangements with the average fees currently paid by Scottish Borders for accommodation based, short breaks and day support options have identified significant annual savings. Our analysis shows that annual fees for long-term live-in Shared Lives arrangements are £45,136 cheaper per year than the local Supported Living average cost. As currently utilized, short breaks provision in the local area costs the authority £348 per night, whereas Shared Lives cost an average of £85 per night. Average saving for day opportunities provided through Shared Lives would be £4,200 per annum compared to the cost of the existing offer. See Appendix one for full details of the cost comparison.

In recent years, a number of areas have invested in development of Shared Lives and now act as national front-runners in provision. These areas provide the Scottish Borders with benchmarks for the level of expansion achievable. In order to provide a benchmark with a similar geographical and demographic make up to the area we will also present the statistics for similar Scottish authorities:

- Lancashire, Southampton, West Sussex and Bridgend each support 10% of their learning disability populations known to adult social care in Shared Lives arrangements;
- Fife and Moray each support 3.5% of their learning disability populations known to adult social care in Shared Lives arrangements.

¹ State of Shared Lives in England 2017

² State of Shared Lives in Scotland 2018

2. Executive Summary

The Scottish Borders plan to develop a service for people with a learning disability identified as their primary support need. The 'best performing' areas in England (Lancashire, West Sussex and Southampton) support 10% of this client group through Shared Lives. Moreover, Greater Manchester has just committed to ambitious expansion with the aim of 15% of people with learning disability eligible for services being supported in Shared Lives over the next 5 years. Fife is offered as a benchmark local authority with a similar rural population in Scotland. They support 3.5% of their learning disability population via Shared Lives.

If the Scottish Borders caught up with the 'best performing' areas for provision for people with learning disability at 10% of the population, 56 people would benefit from Shared Lives across the authority. Net savings associated with use of Shared Lives versus use of other forms of care and accommodation would be in excess of £992,000 per year. A more modest ambition, to equal the best performing benchmark areas for Scotland, would see 3.5% of the known learning disability population, or 20 individuals, supported offering net savings in excess of £354,000 per annum.

Expansion of Shared Lives is dependent on engaging appropriate people to become Shared Lives carers. To generate expansion which aligns with UK benchmarks, the new scheme would need to recruit 28 Shared Lives carers. To equal the Scottish benchmark provided, 10 Shared Lives carers would be required.

3. What we have been asked to do

Shared Lives Plus has been commissioned to undertake a baseline analysis and expansion modelling exercise to provide the Borders with an understanding of its use of Shared Lives and how this compares with other areas of Scotland and the wider UK. This report forms part of a wider piece of work and the findings will be included in the business case and options appraisal which Shared Lives Plus have been commissioned to provide.

4. Baseline analysis and expansion modelling: methodology

Shared Lives Plus collect data annually from Shared Lives schemes to monitor the provision of Shared Lives and trends in the sector. We have used this data to collate a baseline for the Borders showing the scale and nature of Shared Lives provided in the county and have compared this with regional data and against national 'best performing' benchmarks.

5. Analysis of scale and nature of Shared Lives in Scottish Borders

Table A below shows the total number of clients in receipt of social care services in the Scottish Borders³ and then goes on to present figures on the number people with a learning disability known to the local authority⁴ together with the numbers supported via Shared Lives. The table also shows the number of people accessing by other client groups. At the bottom of the table, Lancashire is offered as a UK benchmark, having successfully expanded Shared Lives to 10% of people with a learning disability supported long term. Fife, Aberdeenshire and Moray are offered as Scottish comparators.

Table A: Total People Using Shared Lives

	Total people			Learning Disability Support			Mental Health Support	Other Group(s)
	Total people	Shared Lives		Total people	Shared Lives	%	Shared Lives	Shared Lives
Borders	3,946	0	0.00%	556	0	0.00%	0	0
TOTAL	3,946	0	0.00%	556	0	0.00%	0	0
Lancashire	23,440	391	1.67%	3,600	358	9.94%	5	28
Fife	12,711	74	0.58%	1,201	42	3.50%	11	21
Aberdeenshire	11,924	33	0.28%	1,250	22	1.76%	7	4
Moray	2,912	120	4.12%	407	14	3.44%	3	103

Table B shows use of Shared Lives by type of arrangement – long-term live-in, short breaks and day opportunities. Across the UK, the average scheme supports 54% of the people who use shared lives in long-term live in arrangements. This is above the Scottish figures which averages at 35% in long-term live-in arrangements and 19% and 46% supported via short breaks and day opportunities respectively. As the whole market place is still quite small in Scotland, these figures can be easily influenced by large providers such as the Moray scheme who focus primarily on day opportunities. Even so, Moray should be recognised as a UK leader in terms of making Shared Lives available to such a large percentage of its social care population by developing it as a viable alternative to traditional forms of day support.

³ Figures provided by the Population Health Directorate in the Scottish Government

⁴ Figures from Scottish Commission for Learning Disability 2017: available at: www.sclد.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Annex-A-2017.pdf

Table B: Total People Using Shared Lives by Type of Arrangement

	Total people	Live In		Short Break		Day Support	
	Shared Lives	Total people	Shared Lives	Total people	Shared Lives	Total people	Shared Lives
Borders	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
TOTAL	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Lancashire	391	226	57.80%	95	24.30%	70	17.90%
Fife	74	31	41.89%	8	10.81%	35	47.30%
Aberdeenshire	33	10	30.30%	17	51.52%	14	42.42%
Moray	120	1	0.83%	21	17.50%	120	100.00%

6. What expansion looks like against national benchmarks

Learning Disability

Table C models the impact of the expansion of Shared Lives for people with a Learning Disability identified as their primary support need to equal the best performing areas nationally and across the UK. This is set out in terms of the number of people supported and the projected savings generated. It also sets out ambitious examples for development beyond these levels.

Table C: Expansion of Shared Lives for Learning Disability against UK and Scottish Benchmarks

	Existing Learning Disability Support			To equal best usage of 10% (Lancashire, Southampton, West Sussex, Bridgend)			To equal 15%			To equal 20%		
	Total people	Existing Users		9.94%	Additional Users	Saving	15%	Shared Lives	Saving	20%	Shared Lives	Saving
Borders	556	0	0%	56	56	£1,072,817	84	84	£1,737,317	112	112	£2,145,634
TOTAL	0	0		56	56	£1,072,817	84	84	£1,737,317	112	112	£2,145,634
Lancashire	3,600	358	9.94%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Existing Learning Disability Support			To equal Fife			To equal 10%			To equal 15%		
	Total people	Existing Users		3.50%	Additional Users	Saving	10%	Shared Lives	Saving	15%	Shared Lives	Saving
Borders	556	0	0%	20	20	£383,149	56	56	£1,072,817	84	84	£1,609,226
TOTAL	0	0		20	20	£383,149	56	56	£1,072,817	84	84	£1,609,226
Fife	1,201	42	3.50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes on calculations and assumptions

- (1) Savings calculated based on the Scottish average split within shared lives scheme by arrangement type: 34% of all additional users being in Long Term arrangements, 19% in Short Breaks and 46% accessing day opportunities.
- (2) Savings are calculated using the actual savings offered through Shared Lives against current fee paid for alternative types of residential land support services. See Appendix 1.

- (3) Savings for long-term live-in arrangements are compared to existing average supported living fees and there are currently only 16 residential placements funded by Scottish Borders and the authority identified that these would be very unlikely to transition over to Shared Lives.
- (4) As the calculation takes into account the infrastructure costs of an independent scheme, they represent a net saving to the local authority. These savings are cashable when an individual is moved from an alternative type of support into Shared Lives or at the point where an individual enters a Shared Lives arrangement who would otherwise have accessed an alternative existing service.

Short breaks in the Scottish Borders are currently funded via a block contract. This service offers individualised packages of support for a short break and as a result the nightly cost of the service per person averages at £353 per night. Against the current provision, Shared Lives offers a significant saving. Research undertaken for Shared Lives Plus by PPL identified that short breaks provided by Shared Lives Plus are usually cost comparable with alternative short breaks provision offered. Table D below, presents savings for Shared Lives against current provision in Scottish Borders if Short Breaks savings are excluded to ensure that savings are not being artificially inflated due to inaccurate cost comparison.

Table D: Expansion of Shared Lives for Learning Disability against UK and Scottish Benchmarks (excluding Short break savings)

	Existing Learning Disability Support			To equal best usage of 10% (Lancashire, Southampton, West Sussex, Bridgend)			To equal 15%			To equal 20%		
	Total people	Existing Users		9.94%	Additional Users	Saving	15%	Shared Lives	Saving	20%	Shared Lives	Saving
Borders	556	0	0%	56	56	£992,858	84	84	£1,489,286	112	112	£1,985,715
TOTAL		0			56	£992,858		84	£1,489,286		112	£1,985,715
Lancashire	3,600	358	9.94%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Existing Learning Disability Support			To equal Fife			To equal 10%			To equal 15%		
	Total people	Existing Users		3.50%	Additional Users	Saving	10%	Shared Lives	Saving	15%	Shared Lives	Saving
Borders	556	0	0%	20	20	£354,592	56	56	£992,858	84	84	£1,489,286
TOTAL		0			20	£354,592		56	£992,858		84	£1,489,286
Fife	1,201	42	3.50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Expansion of Shared Lives services is dependent on the availability of Shared Lives carers. Table E shows the number of Shared Lives carers required to meet the projected levels of expansion. This is based on one Shared Lives carer supporting two Shared Lives arrangements.

Table E: Projected level of recruitment for Shared Lives carers to achieve growth targets

	Existing Learning Disability Support			To equal Fife			To equal best usage of 10% (Lancashire, Southampton, West Sussex)			To equal 15%		
	Total people	Existing Users		3.50%	Additional Users	Additional carers	10%	Additional Users	Additional carers	15%	Additional Users	Additional carers
Borders	556	0	0%	20	20	10	56	56	28	84	84	42
TOTAL	556	0	0.00%	20	20	10	56	56	28	84	84	42

Appendix one – Annual fees for Shared Lives compared with current average annual fees paid by Scottish Borders for other types of Social Care Support

Residential Care	Weekly cost	Annual Cost	Annual savings via Shared Lives	Notes
Existing Residential provision in SB	£988.00	£51,376.00	£17,212.00	Figures provided by the Scottish Borders
Shared Lives	£657.00	£34,164.00	-	Figures provided in Social Finance Report 2013
Supported Living	Weekly cost	Annual Cost	Annual Shared Lives saving	Notes
Existing Supported Living provision in SB	£1,525.00	£79,300.00	£45,136.00	Figures provided by the Scottish Borders
Shared Lives	£657.00	£34,164.00	-	Figures provided in Social Finance Report 2013
Short Breaks	Nightly cost	Annual Cost (28 days per annum)	Annual Shared Lives saving	Notes
Existing Short Breaks contract	£353.41	£9,895.48	£7,515.48	Figures provided by the Scottish Borders
Shared Lives	£85.00	£2,380.00	-	Figures provided by PPL Report (2017)
Day Opportunities	Hourly rate	Annual Cost	Annual Shared Lives saving	Notes
Day opportunities - Internal	£14.00	£23,520.00	£8,400.00	Calculated at 9am - 4pm, 5 days per week, 48 weeks per year
Day opportunities - External	£9.00	£15,120.00	£0.00	Figures provided by the Scottish Borders
Average of existing day opportunities provision	£11.50	£19,320.00	£4,200.00	Figures provided by the Scottish Borders
Shared Lives	£9.00	£15,120.00	-	Figures provided by PPL Report (2017)