



The state of the sector Executive summary

**Shared Lives
care in Scotland
2022-23**



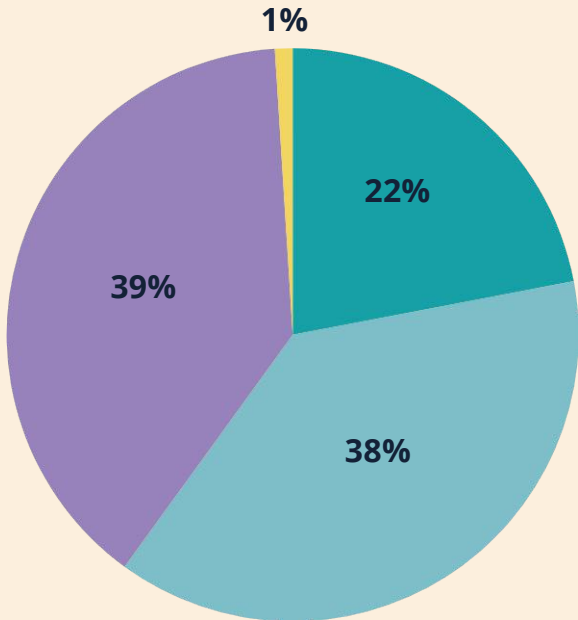
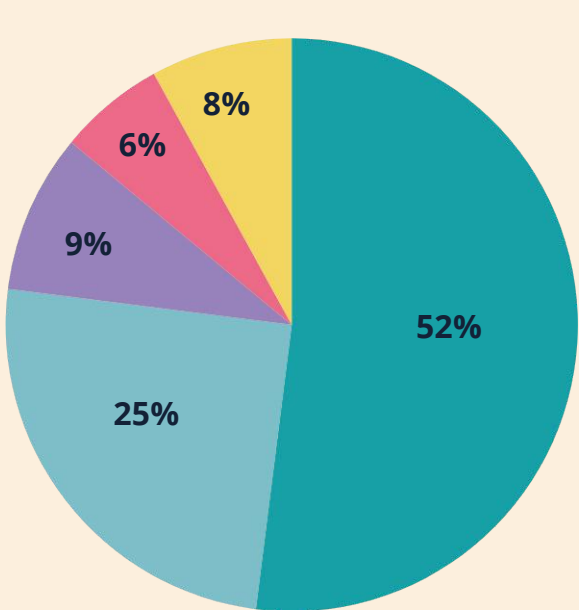
Introduction

The Shared Lives Sector in Scotland is a small but high-quality part of the nation’s social care provision. It has remained stable and demonstrated its resilience against the continuing challenges of COVID-19, the rising cost of living, and reduced budgets. Shared Lives can be incredible for both carers and those receiving support, delivering life-changing outcomes and allowing people to live the life they want to.

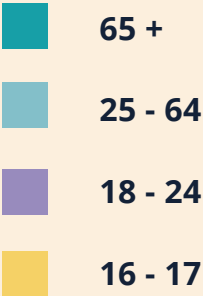
Provision in Scotland covers about half of local authority areas. A new scheme has been established by a local charity in Shetland, and other areas are considering development. To achieve growth in the sector alongside improved outcomes for individuals and local authorities, there needs to be committed leadership, effective commissioning, and potentially regional collaboration.

Key messages

- There were 545 people supported within Shared Lives in Scotland from April 2022 – March 2023. They were supported by 635 Shared Lives carers, registered with fourteen different Shared Lives schemes.
- The most recent Care Inspectorate Scotland reports show that 40% of schemes received a grade of Excellent, 33% Very Good, with none receiving a grade of lower than Good.
- 22% of the people supported were aged 65+, 38% between 25-64, 39% between 18-24 and 1% (3 people) were 16 or 17.
- Of those supported, 52% live with a learning disability, 25% have dementia or a condition associated with old age, 9% live with an autistic spectrum disorder, 6% receive support due to mental ill health, and 8% live with Down’s Syndrome or have a physical or sensory disability.
- Shared Lives remains a highly cost-effective form of adult social care. An independent review found that Shared Lives resulted in an average saving of between £8k and £30k per annum, depending on the person’s support needs and local alternative services.



Age of people supported



Support needs



“Shared Lives is a very good fit for our strengths-based and community focus in the Scottish Borders. As a model, it is at the forefront of people’s minds when planning care and support, the caring relationships produce such positive outcomes, and its flexibility supports people to lead a good life of their choosing. The costs that the Scottish Borders Council have avoided by developing a Shared Lives service three years ago are significant.”

Simon Burt
General Manager Mental Health and
Learning Disability Services,
Scottish Borders Council



Shetland Community Connections

Scotland’s newest and most northerly Shared Lives scheme has been established in beautiful Shetland. The scheme is a welcome addition for Shetlanders choosing which support to draw upon, allowing them to live the life they wish. Shared Lives offers a very different relationship and community-based approach to what is already offered; it sits so well within our supportive and caring community.



Our early discussions with the Shared Lives Plus Scottish team provided the necessary knowledge and contacts to turn our aspirations into reality. Ben Hall visited Shetland and spoke at public sessions ensuring there was a clear understanding of what we at Shetland Community Connections wanted to set up and why we were so excited to do so. Shared Lives Plus brought the experience and knowledge of Shared Lives within Scotland’s legal and regulatory framework. We commissioned a feasibility study from Shared Lives Plus, the report enabled us to build our business case and ultimately take the decision to go ahead.

With incredible local and national support, we have created something completely new in Shetland, something that will change people’s lives alongside the mutuality of a life shared. Shared Lives Shetland is proud to be part of the growing Shared Lives family in Scotland and a member of Shared Lives Plus, the UK wide charity for shared living.

Jane Haswell – Community Connections

“Growing Shared Lives in Scotland will help transform the social care landscape, giving far more people a better quality, more personalised care and support option, along with significant potential cost savings for commissioners. We call on leaders across social care to join us in developing a positive vision for the future and to commit to growing Shared Lives in Scotland.”

Ewan King, CEO Shared Lives Plus



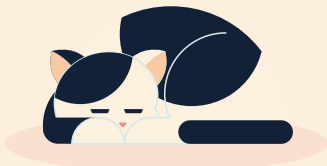
We can support you

Shared Lives Plus has more than 35 years of experience supporting local authorities and schemes to grow to their potential. We can work with you to deliver:

- Audience insight and needs analysis
- Business cases development
- Implementation planning
- Support with commissioning strategies and plans
- Shared Lives diversification

- Working in Co-production
- Developing impactful recruitment strategies
- Communications and marketing
- Improving and increasing referral
- Benefits of Shared Lives

If you would like support to grow or develop a Shared Lives scheme please contact:
Suzi Clark, Head of Strategic Advice, 07795 461 663, suzi.clark@sharedlivesplus.org.uk
Or
Ben Hall - Development Manager Scotland, 07392 313 501, ben@sharedlivesplus.org.uk



About Shared Lives

In Shared Lives, a young person or adult who needs support is matched with a carefully approved Shared Lives carer by their local Shared Lives scheme. Together, they share family and community life. Over half of the people using Shared Lives move in with their chosen Shared Lives carer to live as part of their household; and the remaining people visit for day support or overnight breaks. People get safe, personal care and support, in a place which feels like home. They make friends and become more active. Supported by 145 Shared Lives schemes, there are approximately 10,000 carers who are supporting nearly 10,000 people across the UK. In Scotland 14 schemes supported 545 people last year.

Our lives get better when they're shared

To find out what Shared Lives
can do for you, please contact us:

 www.sharedlivesplus.org.uk

 info@sharedlivesplus.org.uk



Company Number 4511426

Reg Charity Number (Scotland) SC042742

Reg Charity Number (England and Wales) 1095562