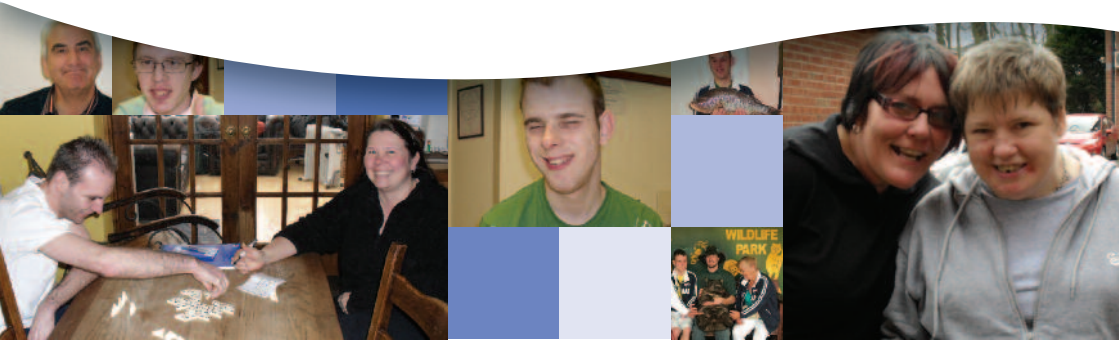




St. Anne's Shared Lives

Offering Homes to People with Learning Disabilities





St Anne's Shared Lives

St. Anne's Shared Lives was set up in October 1992 to fill a gap in services in Leeds.

The aim is to recruit carers who can offer a home to adults with a learning disability. We were previously called the Community Carers Scheme.

St. Anne's believes that people with a learning disability have the same right to live as normal a life in the community as everyone else. For many people, the chance to live in an ordinary household could be what they need and have perhaps never had.

It is our job to recruit and train carers and to match them up with people needing this service. We then provide on-going support. Since the scheme began over 90 people have successfully lived with carers throughout the Leeds Metropolitan area.

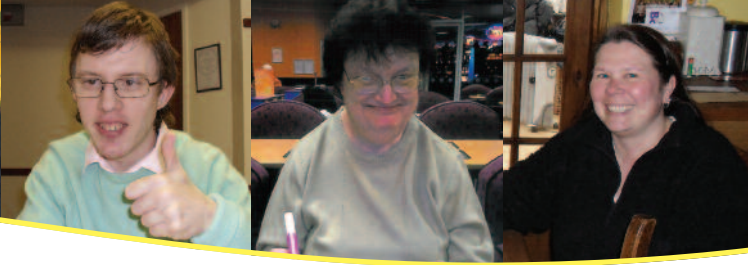
St Anne's Shared Lives is registered as a Shared Lives service with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) under The Health and Social Care Act 2008.

The scheme is assessed as being Excellent.

A copy of our inspection reports are available on request.

The scheme has had a successful track record supporting people from a wide range of backgrounds and currently over 50 arrangements throughout the city and surrounding areas.

“The scheme has been successful and has provided homes to over 90 people previously living in hospitals, hostels or with their families, since it began.”



Care Managers are encouraged to consider the scheme as an option when making future plans for people who are finding it difficult to live independently; are unable to continue living with their family or who wish to move on from a residential setting. We are happy to discuss the scheme with staff, clients or families to advise on what we can offer.

Following referral, we will carry out an assessment of the person to determine their suitability for the scheme and identify their needs and preferences in terms of a carer.

Approval Process

Our approval process is thorough, aims to approve only the most suitable and caring people and meets the requirements set out for all Shared Lives services under the Health and Social Care Act 2008. Potential carers attend a series of eight training courses and undergo a comprehensive assessment at home on several occasions. CRB, health, work

and personal references are taken up and a report is then presented to a multi-agency approval panel.

Once approved, carers complete the Learning Disability Induction Award and Common Induction Standards. Carers work to the policies and procedures of the scheme, receive ongoing training and have the opportunity to complete NVQ Level 3.





Matching and Support

Matching

A thorough assessment and careful preparation of clients and of carers is the best way to ensure that a successful match is made. Introductions will be arranged and can be as long or as short as necessary before both sides need to commit themselves permanently.



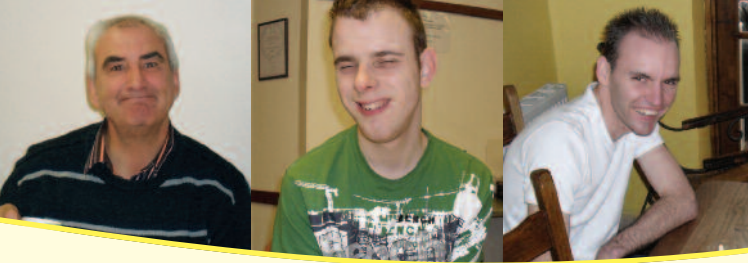
Support

After an arrangement has been set up, carers will continue to receive support and supervision from St. Anne's Shared Lives staff in the form of regular home visits and there is a 24-hour helpline for carers.

An annual carers' review will also take place. There are also regular support group meetings for all carers to share experiences and receive ongoing training.

Clients are also visited independently on a regular basis. A 'Shared Lives' agreement is drawn up prior to a client moving in, which outlines the needs of the client and details how the carer and others involved can together meet those needs.

Respite care is built into each arrangement and we make great efforts to ensure that suitable day-time activities are made available to each person. Arrangements are reviewed after a three month introductory period and then six monthly.



Arrangements and Funding

Arrangements

All arrangements are geared to individual need and last as long as both parties want them to. In some cases, carers may be helping younger people to develop new skills so that, after two or three years, they can move on to more independent supported living. The emphasis, however, is on arrangements being permanent and that is the commitment made by carers.

We have a wide range of carers throughout Leeds. They include families with young children, single people of all ages, gay couples, couples whose children have now grown up and left home, and those from BME communities. This range of carers helps to meet the particular needs of any individual ensuring we are a fully personalised service.

Funding

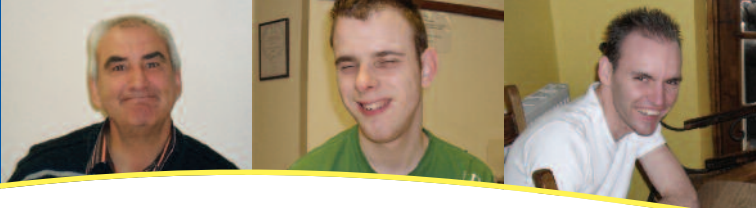
The person's care manager will need to complete a care plan to identify their needs and to release funding from the Joint Commissioning Service for learning disability.

The cost of an arrangement on the scheme per week is £312 (10/11). This comprises £100 accommodation costs met by the client and £212 care and support costs met by Joint Commissioning Service with a contribution from the client. In addition there is the cost of four weeks respite per year and a one off payment for introductory visits.

We ensure that in each arrangement the client will receive at least £70 per week for their personal use.

Arrangements can also be funded through Self Directed Support.

“She has become part of the local community and has built up a real and rewarding friendship with Mary and her children.”



People Who Live With Carers

William

William had lived with his parents all his life when they became ill and could not offer him the care he needed any more. He met with carers on our scheme and decided he would like to try living with them, rather than in a hostel. With the backing of his family, he moved in and has learned a lot of new skills, has an active social life and is very much part of the household.

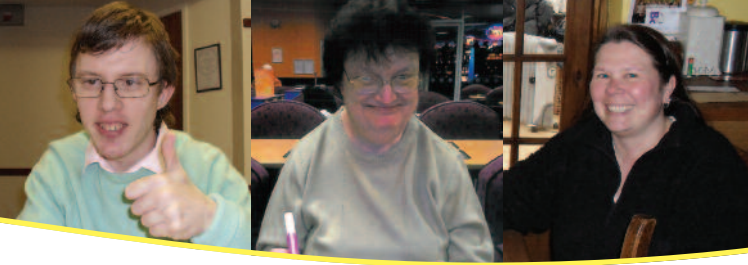
The carers have helped him accept leaving his parents and he has been able to spend regular weekends with them. William continues to attend his training centre and he also enjoys spending a few breaks each year with the same respite carers he has always had. His carers have developed a good relationship with his parents and have been extremely supportive of them. His parents are reassured that they have seen him settled and know that he is happy in his new home, which has enabled them to have an improved quality of life.

Jean

Jean has spent 10 years living in various social services hostels without settling in any of them. She did not get involved in the life of the hostel and tended to find the larger group difficult to be in. She kept to herself and did not communicate much. She also expressed a wish not to live with other people with learning disabilities.

Two years ago she moved from the hostel to live with carers, has grown in confidence, thrived in the more intimate setting and now communicates clearly about things she would like to do.

She has become part of the local community and has built up a real and rewarding friendship with her carer. She has a particularly good relationship with her carer's children and has become an "auntie" to the family.



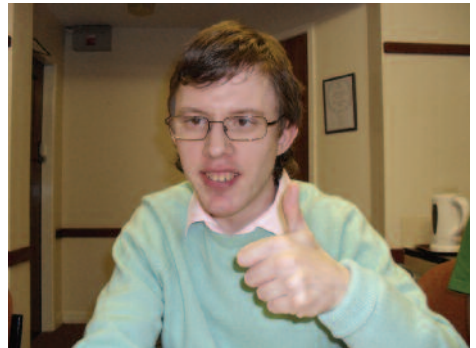
John

John is a young man with mild learning disabilities who has tried living in his own flat but has not been able to cope. He began to neglect himself and was being exploited by other tenants in the block. He moved in to live with a carer around his own age who had previous experience in care work.

His carer has helped John to gain in confidence and maturity through 1 to 1 input and has helped him develop a range of independence skills from cooking to using public transport.

Key to the success of the arrangement is the emotional support John receives from his carer, including supporting John to maintain his relationship with his girlfriend.

John has recently begun working through supported employment and still wishes to live independently and it is planned that he will do so with the support of his carer.



St Anne's is a not for profit, person centred organisation.

We provide a range of services in the North of England to people who have learning disabilities, mental health issues, substance use issues or who are homeless.

Last year we supported over 3,000 people.

Who to Contact

If you would like to talk to somebody about this scheme,
or you want to proceed with your application, please contact:

Martin Ewing

Shared Lives Co-ordinator

Tel: 0113 2816967

Email: martin@st-annes.org.uk

St. Anne's Community Services

6 St. Mark's Avenue Leeds LS2 9BN

Tel: 0113 243 5151

Fax: 0113 245 1526

Email: info@st-annes.org.uk

Or visit our website at: www.st-annes.org.uk