

For further information, visit the Scottish Government S-DS website:
<http://www.selfdirectedsupportscotland.org>.

Children & Families—Eligibility Criteria

A child would be considered for a specialist disability service if he/she has a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on his/her ability to do any normal day to day activities. For more information on the criteria, please visit the Highland Council's SDS Website.

Contact Details:

SDS Officers – SDS.Children@highland.gov.uk

Ross-shire, Caithness & Sutherland -
BusinessSupport.Fodderty@highland.gov.uk

Inverness, Badenoch & Strathspey – cdssouth@highland.gov.uk

Skye, Lochaber and Wester Ross –
admin.cs-slwr@a@highland.gov.uk

Joint Transitions Team – hc.transitionsteam@highland.gov.uk



Health & Social Care



Dignity, Involvement, Informed Choice & Collaboration

The 4 SDS options are available if the child, young person & families are affected by disability. This is defined as a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities (Equality Act, 2010).

The 4 SDS Options



Option 1 - 'A Direct Payment'

- A cash payment to directly purchase support. This allows the supported child and family to have the greatest level of control and choice over the support they receive. However, it also involves the added responsibility of opening a separate bank account, submitting quarterly financial monitoring forms and potentially acting as an employer.

Option 2 - 'Directing the Available Support'

- This is often called an ISF or Individual Service Fund and is when money is held by Highland Council or another organisation but the supported child and family remain in control of how this money is spent. This option supports those who want greater choice but not the responsibilities of a direct payment.

Option 3 - 'Services Arranged by the Authority'

- This option is where money is held by Highland Council who arrange support. This option supports those who do not want to choose their own support and are happy with everything being organised by Highland Council.

Option 4 - 'A Mix of the First 3 Options'

- This is a combination of the first 3 options. This option is suitable for those who want to choose some of their support but also have some of it arranged for them.

4 Steps to Receiving a Personal Budget

1. Contact your child's Named Person/Lead Professional regarding eligibility.
2. Needs Assessment.
3. Create Support Plan.
4. Authorisation of Personal Budget and Support Plan.

Assessment – A Health & Social Care Needs assessment is completed by a member of the Health & Social Care Team. This document evaluates need by considering the strengths and pressures of the child, young person and family, as well as the outcomes that are important to them.

Support Plan – This is completed by the family and SDS worker. This outlines how the money will be spent and the support that will be received.

The purpose of SDS is to encourage more creative and effective solutions. However, it must be possible to evidence that any support meets one of the SHANNARI indicators (Safe, Health, Achieving, Nurtured, Active Respected, Responsible and Included).

Authorisation – The support plan will be approved by Practice Leads or taken to the Highland Council SDS Panel. If the supported child, young person and family do not agree with the decision of the panel the case can be appealed.

For more information please visit the SDS website:

https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1350/care_and_carers/425/self-directed_support

Sway Document:

[Self-directed support in Highland - Making the Change Together \(office.com\)](https://sway.office.com/zsOEBsZGG67rUy0s)

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