

Overview

“*Support in the Right Direction*” is a program funded by the Scottish Government to provide independent support, information and advice about Self-Directed Support (SDS). SDS gives a set of rights to people and responsibilities to organisations in how social care is delivered in Scotland. The post holder will therefore work with the Operations Manager to promote SDS across Argyll and Bute, and Highland.

The Specialist Project Worker will provide a person-centred service that is responsive to the needs and interests of people who are interested in SDS. They will support them to identify issues that affect their ability to live well. The Specialist Project Worker will support individuals to understand the values and principles of SDS, help them identify personal outcomes and priorities that they would like to address to overcome any barriers to these.

The Specialist Project Worker will support other professionals to become better equipped to the needs and options of individuals interested in SDS. They will also build relationships and processes between the Social Work Department, community resources, statutory organisations, other health and Social Care Partnership services and voluntary organisations.

You will support people as required, in a person-centred way and in line with Carr Gomm’s values. These values are: *Choice, Control, Openness & Honesty, Interdependence, Respect, Compassion and Kindness.*

Responsibilities

Reporting to the Community Development Operations Manager, you will work a range of service providers within the public and 3rd sector, alongside individuals and their families.

As a Specialist Project Worker, you will:

- Deliver agreed project tasks and outcomes with project management
- Using person-centred approaches help people explore resources for living, including social care options
 - Lead on Community Contacts’ work in a defined locality including holding a caseload of people accessing assistance from the service.
 - Work as a member of a team, working flexibly to meet the requirements of people we support and to support colleagues remotely across Argyll & Bute and Highland
- Provide specialist support, information and advice on social care via SDS
- Help individuals to identify outcomes, overcome barriers and access relevant support services
- Create accessible pathways and ensure timely initial contact
- Build partnerships across public and third-sector services
- Maintain and share knowledge of local and national services
- Promote Community Contacts and SDS through effective networking
- Attend team meetings to review caseloads, address concerns and service gaps
- Record case examples and share learning on SDS challenges and successes
- Maintain accurate and consistent reports
- Identify gaps in community provision and help address them through partnership working

This outline is by no means exhaustive; it gives an overview of the responsibilities and skills required.

What makes a great Specialist Project Worker?

Successful Specialist Project Workers come from different backgrounds and have a range of work and life experiences, but all have a flair for engaging with and relating to people, an eagerness to support people to realise their rights and responsibilities with SDS and to navigate any barriers they may encounter along the way.

In our eyes, the best Specialist Project Workers are self-motivated people who embrace the challenge of developing the service across their locality, whose people skills enable them to see the bigger picture and suggest next steps, in a collaborative way, with individuals and their families. We are looking for a diplomat who understands and appreciates the complexities of using rights-based processes with a range of stakeholders.

Your benefits will include:

- Enhanced mileage payment of 45p per mile
- 35 days' holiday per year, increasing to 40 days with length of service.
- Enhanced maternity, paternity, adoption, and sick leave
- A Defined Contribution pension scheme, with incremental employer contributions
- Free Blue Light Card (giving access to thousands of discounts and promotions)
- Access to the Carr Gomm App: which includes free physiotherapy, health coaching, and counselling.
- Membership of a credit union
- Cycle to work scheme; and more!