**FACT SHEET June 2017**

**NEW! Independent Living Project (Fife)**

**Disabled Persons Housing Service (Fife)** are running a brand new independent project which will be able to answer queries you have and assist you with managing your direct payment including:

* Providing all necessary independent information, advice and support to assist you in employing your own Personal Assistants or support/care staff
* Access to a training programme run by their qualified HR Training Officer, in co-production with disabled people and their carers, to guide you through becoming an employer (or exploring if it is the option for you)
* Pop In Surgery/Clinic for those times when it’s best to get advice, information and support quickly to assist you in steps to take
* Help you find new staff with the Independent Living Project (Fife) recruitment service should you wish to use it (advertising PA vacancies and assisting you with short-listing for example)
* Putting you in touch with other services who may also be of assistance at this time including payroll, PA training services, etc
* Not made up your mind if Option 1/being an employer is for you? No problem – be referred to the training and awareness training to find out more!
* Referral routes to discuss and explore all of the options – perhaps a mixed bag approach is best for you
* Discussing your choices with the Independent Living Officer to explore your choices and options and advise you in areas that may help you in making your decision
* General options advice is available via referral to their existing SDS Options Fife service
* Contact with SDS Volunteers is an option – have discussions with others who have been through this too
* As a person in receipt of a direct payment from Fife Health & Social Care you will still be required to submit our quarterly financial monitoring returns to our Contracts service, this is as outlines in your Service Level Agreement, which you have signed with Fife Council.
* If you are having difficulty in managing your paperwork, or would like additional help in managing your budget, you can contact the Independent Living Project at Disabled Persons Housing Service (Fife). They will be able to give you information on how to manage your records and receipts if this is something that would help you. They also have the opportunity to meet with other disabled people (SDS Volunteers) who can share how they are doing this.

The new Independent Living Project (Fife) is part of Disabled Persons Housing Service (Fife) and is a user-led, disability-led organisation which is independent of service providers.

The New Independent Living Project (Fife) will commence mid June with Focus Groups working alongside the HR Training Officer to help co-produce the training modules. If this is something you would like to join – please contact the project at DPHS(Fife). The Pop In/Surgery Clinics will begin in July.

Get To Know! Welcome sessions alongside the Focus Training sessions will be an opportunity for a cuppa and a chat to hear about progress of the new service. Now that funding is available, recruitment is under way for new staff members. There will be regular open sessions at the premises in the High Street to meet staff and hear about the services on offer.

SDS Training Focus Groups on Becoming An Employer will run as follows:

* Monday 19th June (morning and afternoon session)
* Monday 26th June (morning and afternoon session)

Each session will be preceded by an introduction and an opportunity to Get To Know the service, and each other. Currently it is planned to run those sessions at DPHS(Fife) training room in the High Street, Kirkcaldy although this may be subject to change dependent on numbers/best location for attendees. Get in touch for more details if this is something you are interested in.

After input from disabled people, their families and carers, the training sessions will run weekly, or as required, either at DPHS(Fife) premises in Kirkcaldy High Street, or in the community elsewhere in Fife as required.

The Independent Living Officer will be available to work throughout Fife and will offer home visits or community visits when this is most suitable.

The SDS Volunteers meet monthly and are available monthly, or on request.

**NEW! INDEPENDENT LIVING PROJECT (FIFE)**

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| Name: |  |
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| Address: |  |
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| Contact number: |  |
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| Email: |  |
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| Best time to contact: |  |

I’d like to \*apply to come along to the Training Focus Groups

Please tick any/all that are suitable and we will then confirm your place

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Monday 19th June |  |  |
|  |  | AM Session (10:30 onwards) |
|  |  | PM Session (1:30 onwards) |
| Monday 26th June |  |  |
|  |  | AM Session (10:30 onwards) |
|  |  | PM Session (1:30 onwards) |

*\*Please note that we will confirm places as available.*