



Independent
Living Fund

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Policy Circular

Document No 08/06

Owner: Corporate Affairs Team

Subject: Adult Placements (Shared lives)

Version: 3 of 3

Last Amended: 20 March 2013

Date Reviewed: March 2013

1.0 Background

“Adult Placement offers people aged 16 and over an alternative and highly flexible form of accommodation and/or support which is provided by ordinary individuals or families in the local community.” (Department of Health, July 2002)

At the ILF we regularly come across “Adult Placements”. This may be a situation where an adult is living with their ex foster parents who have now been approved as Adult Placement carers, or it may have been set up specifically as an Adult Placement. In these cases the client will be living in a normal house in the community with some or all of their care being provided by the householder.

In England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland all ‘Adult Placements Carers’ now have to be approved as part of a scheme and all Adult Placement Schemes have to be registered with the regional regulatory board (eg Care Quality Commission in England). They must meet minimum standards derived from national legislation (eg Care Standards Act 2000 in England). This registration is not the same as that registering a care home or agency providing domiciliary care.

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2.0 Policy

Adult Placement Scheme registration is defined in the regulations as separate from residential care home registration and is to enable Disabled People to live within the community in a family environment.

It is important that all ILF funding supports independent living with choice and control. In general we expect that Adult Placements will provide a satisfactory degree of choice and control. The ILF will normally accept the judgement of the Local Authority as to the suitability of the Adult placement. The Assessor will need to be satisfied that the ILF Independent Living policy principles are being followed (see Independent living policy document) and that the User has adequate choice and control over their arrangements. Where there are concerns about the suitability of an arrangement, as with all users, these should be addressed in the usual way.

It is recognised that once established, adult placements may not offer the same facility for ready change of carer that an employer / employee basis can offer but this should not debar such arrangements, as we already support similar arrangements for disabled people to live in the households of family and friends, some of whom may be paid by SSD or ILF.

However it remains important that all other aspects of life such as freedom to come and go, activity at home, choice of who provides any additional care, choice of activity and friends etc. remain firmly under the control of the user, and as with all users the Assessor will seek to ensure that this is the case.

The Local Authority Threshold sum and ILF funded support must be made up of support as described in the 'Use of funding' policy document. This includes any support that is provided as part of the placement agreement that is in place for the individual Adult placement and should be detailed on the Care schedule and ILF funding request as with all users.

3.0 Source

Trustees meeting 28 November 2006
SMB 13 March 2013

4.0 History Date Reviewed

28 January 2008
March 2009
10 June 2010
March 2013