

Harrow Shared Lives Scheme Policy & Procedure No. 16

Intermediate Care

Some people require support to meet their personal care and health needs. In certain situations (for example after a fall or a period in hospital) that support may need to be greater, usually with the aim of being able to return home as soon as possible. This is known as intermediate care.

How would this happen?

Before providing any Shared Lives (SL) arrangements, SL Carers receive general information and training that enables them to provide personal care safely and sensitively. If they are also able to offer intermediate care they will receive further specialist information and training from an appropriately qualified professional. This will include:

- using techniques for rehabilitation
- ways of enabling you to do as much as possible for yourself
- ways of helping you to regain confidence in being at home and/or going out in the community

Your SL Carers will be aware of your individual needs and preferences as these will be explained in your Service User Plan and regularly reviewed as part of this. The Plan will say how you would like your SL Carer to support you and the names and roles of any health professionals who are involved in your care. Your SL Carer will follow the directions given by the relevant professionals for any treatment or rehabilitation programme. When you need to see any health professionals, SL Carers can support you in making and keeping the appointments if you wish, and also in communicating and understanding information.

If you have any queries about your treatment or health or medication that your SL Carers cannot answer, they will help you to get information from a relevant health professional or your GP or a pharmacist.

If you require support with moving and handling, your SL Carer will be provided with specialist training and/or equipment to enable them to do this. These will be provided after assessment by an appropriate professional, as will any technical aids or equipment to enable you to do as much as possible for yourself. The use of aids and equipment will be kept under review as part of your Service User Plan and reassessments arranged when necessary.

Your SL Carer will work in partnership with health professionals and your family or other supporters in order to ensure that there is consistency and continuity of care for you and that you are able to return to your own home as soon as possible.

See these other policies and procedures and documents for further information on:

- Standards of conduct and practice
- Making choices and decisions
- Communication
- Joint working and information sharing
- Training and development
- Health and safety
- Safe working practices (including moving and handling)
- Personal care
- Cultural and religious customs
- Staying healthy and making use of health resources
- Daily life and inclusion in the community
- Service User Plan
- Individual planning, monitoring and review