



DUNDEE CARERS PARTNERSHIP INFORMATION FACTSHEET No. 7

Planning for the Future

Depending on circumstances each carer will have different concerns when thinking about the future for themselves and the person they care for. There are a number of common areas that some carers want advice about. These include:

- Making decisions on behalf of adults who lack capacity
- Wills and planning funerals
- Planning for the future with the person who needs support

Making decisions on behalf of adults who lack capacity

Making financial, legal, medical and welfare decisions on behalf of another adult is a matter governed by legislation. The main legislation about this is the Adults With Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000. Please see the following guide for carers to making an application for guardianship and intervention orders for more information: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2010/06/28144224/0>.

If the adult has never had the capacity to make these decisions or has made no arrangements about this prior to losing capacity then consideration should be given to whether Guardianship is needed. For more information please visit the following web sites:

- <http://www.publicguardian-scotland.gov.uk/guardianship-orders/following-a-guardianship-order/financial-guardians>
- <http://www.mwcscot.org.uk/the-law/adults-with-incapacity-act/welfare-guardianship/>

Carers of young adults should consider Welfare and/or Financial Guardianship as a future option when the child they are responsible for approaches the age of 16.

If the matter of concern is a one-off or limited action to make a decisions about then an Intervention order may be all that is required. For more information visit <http://www.publicguardian-scotland.gov.uk/intervention-orders>.

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When any adult is concerned about who will make decisions if in future their capacity is reduced then Power of Attorney is a way of implementing their choices and preferences. This can be for Welfare and/or Financial matters. For more information, please visit: <http://www.publicguardian-scotland.gov.uk/power-of-attorney>.

Wills and planning funerals

It is important to both carers and the person they support to consider the need to make a will. Advice about this can be found at <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/family/death-and-wills/wills-s/>.

Although thinking about a loved one dying can be a sad, some Carers and they person they support worry about leaving the responsibility of planning their funeral to others. Please visit the website below for more information about planning your own funeral: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/08/4930>.

A funeral can be an expensive and unexpected cost .Some people choose to write down their preferences for arrangements and others may choose to prepay some or all of the costs.

Should you want to, there are different options for saving for your funeral including a funeral plan, insurance, or a savings account. If you have done this you should make sure you tell your family or friends.

If you're not able to save enough to pay for your funeral the depending on their situation at the time of your death your family and friends might be able to get help with these costs.

To apply for a Funeral Payment the person organising the funeral should contact the Department for Work and Pensions: 0345 606 0265 or visit www.gov.uk/funeral-payments.

Local council burial or cremation

Finally, where a person dies and where no arrangements are being made for their burial or cremation, the council must make these arrangements.

Planning for the future with the person who needs support

Some people who need care and support may have make clear arrangements for their future. Sometimes the person may want a more independent life of their own.

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Carers often worry about what will happen to the person they support when they can no longer provide care because of a change in circumstances, illness, old age or death

There will be times when some carers and the person they care for seek a future plan making longer-term arrangements with the supported person about their future.

Future plans are more in-depth than emergency plans. The people involved in creating the plan should include: the supported person; the carer; other relevant family members, friends and professionals.

It's a process which should be developed over time taking into account the wishes and preferences and those of the supported person and the personal assets and resources that are likely to be available.

Depending on the nature of care and support needed for the person this could mean a full Outcome – Focused Assessment with a Health and Social Care Professional.

When the supported person is already known to a Health and Social Care Professional you should ask them about making a future plan.

Even if you, or the person you support do not want or need services and supports at the moment you can ask for help to support to develop a Future Plan.

You can contact First Contact Team at 01382 434019 or any of the professionals involved in supporting you and/ or the person you care for and they will provide you with assistance.

If you are supporting a child and would like help to plan for their future please contact their 'Named Person' for advice and support.