



Connected Conversations

Learning Report from Outcome 1
Conversations



Easy Read Report

2025

Connected Conversations Easy Read Document Outcome 1

About this document



This is an easy read information document





This information has been written by In Control Scotland and was shared with the National SDS Collaboration on 2nd April 2025





The National SDS Collaboration is where people come together to talk about how to make self-directed support better in Scotland



We asked people questions about their feelings about self-directed support



This is a report based on what people told us



These questions are about having choice and control in your life



We asked people what has it been like for you to get help, advice, and support when you needed it?

This is what people told us:



It's hard to figure out how things work



Getting help isn't always the same for everyone



People don't always explain things well



It can make people feel really stressed or sad



Having someone to stand up for you and help is really important



We asked people if all 4 self-directed support options were available to you, and did you get the one you wanted?

This is what people told us:



Some people got the help they needed and talked to nice people



Things weren't always explained well, and people didn't always get to choose



Too much paperwork and lots of waiting made things slow



There wasn't always enough help, and sometimes things didn't work

Getting help was tricky, and rules weren't always fair



People needed someone to speak up for them and help them



We asked people if they have been able to find information about selfdirected support that is easy for them to understand?

This is what people told us:



It's hard to find or understand the right information



Different people say different things, at different times, which makes it confusing



People have to learn by themselves or get help from others

Rules aren't clear, and too much paperwork slows things down



Learning from training and friends helps people feel more confident



We asked people if they have a PA, do you think they get enough support?

This is what people told us:



People don't always know where to get help, so good advice is important



It's hard to find and keep the right people for the job



Workers don't always get the training they need

Employers have a lot of work and responsibility



There should be one place where people can easily get help



We asked people what do you think should change or what could help make your life better?

This is what people told us:



Make it easier to find help and understand things



Help PAs do their jobs better and support their employers

Teach PAs more so they can help better if they want to learn more



Make sure there's enough money, fair rules, and people doing the right thing



Give people the help that fits their needs in a way that works for them

What we noticed



Disabled people and their families say that getting the right help in Scotland needs to be fair, clear, and focused on what each person needs.



People are still talking about the same problems; why are things not much better for people?



Many families struggle to get the help they need, and good experiences seem rare.



To make things better, disabled people and their families have shared what they think needs to change.



Make it easier to get help and understand things



Help PAs and their employers do their jobs better



Make sure rules are fair and people do what they should



Give more money and help people in a way that works best for them



Help PAs more and make sure people have someone to speak up for them

Thank you to everyone that took part in this 10 conversation