



WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHANGE

2024 - 2025

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTOR



in  **Control**[®]
Scotland

www.in-controlscotland.org

What is it all about?

Working Together for Change is about enabling people to be in control through self-directed support. We will bring together people from across Scotland to make positive change in social care, harnessing the unique skills, insights and knowledge of people using and delivering social care to unlock the potential of self-directed support.



Working Together for Change is being organised by In Control Scotland an independent charity, funded by the Scottish Government as a National Partner to improve self-directed support.

The work that In Control Scotland do is driven by a strong belief in social inclusion, equality, human rights and social justice and the view that everyone is entitled to the support they need to be part of and included in their own community.

We have **30 places available** on the programme and it is fully funded by the Scottish Government so there is **no cost to participate for successful applicants**.



What is Self-Directed Support?



Self-directed support, sometimes shortened to SDS, is the way that social care is delivered in Scotland. It is our law, through the Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 which states:

Self-directed support is about assisting individuals who may need support to have maximum choice and control over how their support is planned and provided. People can decide what kind of support they want and how, where, and when they want it.

To find out more about self-directed support you can watch this short video from ALLN: [What is Self-directed Support - YouTube](#)

Who is this for?

Working Together for Change is open to disabled adults and the families and carers of disabled people, people who work in social work, social care, and health and community services across Scotland. The course is delivered to intentionally encourage the building of new alliances and connections between people across Scotland who can make a difference to how self-directed support works.



Why should I take part?



The only way that change will happen is if everyone works collaboratively and is open to learning from each other.

Some of the benefits of taking part include:

- For disabled people and their carers; this means having your voice heard in local and national planning and making improvements not just for yourself but for other citizens.
- For people working in paid roles; this gives an opportunity to make improvements for you and your teams that are in line with the SDS Framework of Standards, and to truly apply the values of social work and social care which put the rights of disabled people at the heart of decisions. For everyone; it is a chance to learn from one another, and to make real and lasting change happen.



Objectives of Working Together for Change



This work is being delivered as part of the Self-Directed Support National Improvement Plan (2023-27) and works towards the priority of ‘involvement of supported people in planning’.

The objectives of Working Together for Change are:

- To bring together like-minded people from across Scotland to design improvement projects that make change happen. These will make self-directed support stronger and ultimately result in people living good lives across Scotland.
- Supported people and unpaid carers will be better able to make positive choices and to think, plan and develop how they want to organise and direct their support.
- People in paid roles will be more confident, knowledgeable and skilled in ways to enable and empower people to get the right support.
- All participants will feel better connected and have an increased capacity to make self-directed support work well in their local communities.

We will ensure that there is a balance of participants from different backgrounds working together to share their unique experiences and insights. We aim to build on the skills of all participants to enable them to gain the knowledge and confidence needed to work towards and advocate for a better future.

Content

Working Together for Change will be delivered through a mixture of in-person and online sessions, with shorter online reflection sessions. It will run between September 2024 and March 2025. The programme will be delivered by our team of facilitators, including people with both lived and professional experience of making change in self-directed support.



By taking part, participants will:

- Explore the history and context of social care support and an understanding of how the health and social care system currently works
- Learn about good practice in self-directed support, inclusion, equality, and what works
- Understand, plan and develop ways to work together to build confidence, influence positive change personally, as well as in systems and the wider community





PROGRAMME SESSIONS

Our in-person and online sessions will include a variety of speakers from different organisations to cover all aspects of Social Care/Self-Directed Support on changes that they have taken part in personally or as a organisation, including Coalition of Carers, Disability Person's Organisation, Inspiring Scotland and Local Authority Team Leaders. The sessions will be interactive and enable participants to ask questions, and gain the confidence to 'make change happen'.

SESSION 1 & 2

Wednesday, 18th September 2024 (starting 11:00 am) and Thursday, 19th September 2024 (9:00 am – 4:00 pm) – In Person Residential Session

Sessions 1 and 2 will be residential and will take place at **Stirling Court Hotel, University of Stirling, Airthrey Road, Stirling, FK9 4LA**

SESSION 3

**Thursday, 3rd October 2024
(12:00 pm – 1:30 pm) – On-line Session**

Session 3 will be an on-line session and will take place on Microsoft Teams.

SESSION 4

Thursday, 17th October 2024
(12:00 pm – 1:30 pm) – On-line Session

Session 4 will be an on-line session and will take place on Microsoft Teams.

SESSION 5

Thursday, 31st October 2024 (11:00 am – 3.30 pm)
– In Person Session – Perth Civil Service Club, 11 St Leonards Bank, Perth, PH2 8EB

Session 5 will be an in-person session and will take place at – **Perth Civil Service Club, 11 St Leonards Bank, Perth, PH2 8EB.**

SESSION 6

Thursday, 14th November 2024
(12:00 pm – 1:30 pm) – On-line Session

Session 6 will be an on-line session and will take place on Microsoft Teams.

SESSION 7

Thursday, 28th November 2024
(12:00 pm – 1:30 pm) – On-line Session

Session 7 will be an on-line session and will take place on Microsoft Teams.

SESSION 8

Thursday, 9th January 2025
(12:00 pm – 1:30 pm) – On-line Session

Session 8 will be an on-line session and will take place on Microsoft Teams.

SESSION 9

Thursday, 30th January 2025
(12:00 pm – 1:30 pm) – On-line Session

Session 9 will be an on-line session and will take place on Microsoft Teams.

SESSION 10

Thursday, 27th February 2025 (11:00 am – 3.30 pm)
– In Person Session – Perth Civil Service Club, 11 St
Leonards Bank, Perth, PH2 8EB

Session 10 will be an in-person session and will take place at – **Perth Civil Service Club.**

SESSION 11

Thursday, 20th March 2025 (11:00 am – 3.30 pm) –
In Person Session – Perth Civil Service Club, 11 St
Leonards Bank, Perth, PH2 8EB

Session 11 will be an in-person session and will take place at – **Perth Civil Service Club.**

MEET THE WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHANGE TEAM

The programme is facilitated by members of the In Control Scotland Team and one of our associates:

Brett Rogers Lead Facilitator



Brett has been part of the In Control Scotland team, for over a year now! He started his career working with homeless people in London in the early 90's. Since then, he has worked with people with different support needs including learning disabilities, autism and dementia. He has worked in both Children's & Families and Adult Social Work Teams and worked in the role of Local Area Co-ordinator in Aberdeenshire.

Pauline Lunn Director



Pauline has worked for In Control Scotland since 2021, having started her career as a youth worker and support worker for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities. She worked on a national SDS implementation project in 2012 and then spent time working across the voluntary sector on developing and improving social care services, with people affected by homelessness, disability, and care experienced young people. She has particular interests in option 2 of self-directed support, service commissioning and procurement, and person-centred planning.

Alastair Minty Co-Facilitator



Alastair has been working with In Control Scotland for 6 years, before this he worked as an associate with In Control Scotland. He has a long history of being unrealistic about the scale of organisational change, and overestimating people's abilities, either that, or a history of being optimistic and positive about what we can achieve together (depending on who you talk to). He has particular interests in how we balance the idea of opportunity and risk with people who get support, and how we can all live a full life (including relationships and a good social life).

Dr Danielle Farrel Co-Facilitator



Danielle worked with In Control Scotland as an associate after graduating from their Partners in Policymaking leadership programme funded by the Scottish Government back in 2018. Last year she took on a new role as a Project Co-ordinator within the organisation. Due to living with a disability Danielle has a broad knowledge of the challenges around self-directed support as well as the challenges often faced by disabled people and their families on a regular basis. She has a passion for inclusion and for changing the narrative for disabled people.

Karen Procek Co-Facilitator



Karen joined In Control Scotland as Project Co-ordinator in 2023 and is a highly skilled training facilitator with over 20 years of experience working in the Voluntary sector. Karen is committed to influencing change through a rights-based approach to education and discussion, increasing confidence and competence, and raising awareness of how to support children and adults with additionality. Karen is a passionate changemaker for inclusion based on her experience as an unpaid carer. As a parent carer, Karen brings a wealth of experience in supporting organisations to gain lived experience of raising a disabled child and shattering stereotypes of disability. Karen is passionate about ensuring people live their best life, are included within their communities.

Debbie Forsyth Co-Facilitator



Debbie works with Gig Buddies, a project that enables adults with a learning disability to have improved social lives. She is a passionate campaigner, and is involved in many organisations, such as Stay Up Late Scotland, No Bedtimes campaign, and the New Routes Home campaign. Her passion is driven by her personal experience with her son, who is a young man who is autistic and has a learning disability. As a family they have experienced difficulties accessing education, illegal exclusion, mental health crisis, and managing a direct payment during times of crisis. They have experienced first-hand the difficulties accessing and using Self-Directed Support and know how good it can be when it is working as it should. Debbie is a Partners in Policymaking graduate and has been a co-facilitator of the Working Together for Change programme since 2019.



What some of our graduates
said about the programme



“ —

This programme was great, very informative and inspiring. There was a good mix of people with lived experience and professionals. It would have been good if more senior managers would have attended though!

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“ —

The team who ran this course are knowledgeable, passionate, kind, supportive and encouraging - I got so much from this course by connecting with some like minded people who I would never have met otherwise and I'm excited for the changes that we will make. I wish there were more carers and people with disabilities on the course - but I appreciate that the time constraints plus the energy needed to engage in making a change make it difficult for a lot of carers and people with disabilities

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“ —

All positive in terms of the programme and I would recommend my colleagues attend any further sessions as it has been a great experience. Thank you!”

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“ —

I have found this to be a really positive course. It has developed my thinking greatly about how to effect change. It has also been very though provoking with lots of stimulating input across the different sessions.

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“ —

I was so apprehensive when I joined the course - I wasn't sure it was the right place for me being surrounded by social workers, or if I could hack it emotionally... but you encouraged me to continue and I am glad that you did. I have left the course fired up and confident to help change the way people with learning disabilities in Scotland are treated. Without getting too soppy, you really are an inspirational team - your lived experience, work experience, creativity, openness and just general passion for the 'right' things is contagious. Thank you for being so candid and open about your own experiences, I feel less alone and have got so much confidence from watching you all."

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“ —

This programme has provided me with the knowledge about what is happening in other areas of Scotland. I felt it was a good opportunity for learning more about self-directed support and everyone was made to feel really included and an equal participant on the programme

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APPLY

NOW

If you are interested in applying for a place on the Working Together for Change programme, and can fully commit to attending all the sessions please contact:

Brett Rogers at:

brett.r@in-controlscotland.org.uk

This programme is FREE to attend for successful participants as it is FULLY FUNDED by the Scottish Government

Closing Date: Friday, 9th August 2024

