

SiRD consultation Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is SiRD?**

'[Support in the Right Direction 2021](#)' (SiRD) is a Scottish Government programme which funds 31 independent support and advocacy projects to help people exercise choice and control over their social care arrangements. The current round of funding has been fully allocated and ends on 31 March 2022.

- **What's this consultation about?**

A number of recent reports on social care, including the [Independent Review of Adult Social Care, My Support, My Choice](#) have recognised the value of independent support in helping people to exercise choice and control over their social care arrangements. The value of independent support is also recognised in the new [National Self-directed Support: Framework of Standards](#). These reports and the new Framework of Standards were based on extensive research into people's experiences of using social care and made a series of recommendations relating to this.

This consultation will not duplicate this work and will instead focus on how potential funding for a new round of SiRD should be designed to best support the delivery of independent support.

- **Is this a new funding opportunity? Can I apply for funding?**

There is no funding available to apply for at this time. The purpose of the consultation is to determine what the priorities are for independent support, should funding be made available beyond the current SiRD programme which ends on 31 March 2022.

- **When would any new programme launch?**

We would expect any new funding programme to be in place by April 2022, however, this is subject to agreement from the Scottish Government later this year. The launch date and application deadline for any new programme would be confirmed following this agreement.

- **How much funding might be available in future?**

This will be up to Scottish Ministers to determine. The current SiRD programme provides approximately £2.9million per year to 31 independent support projects.

- **What will be the priority for future funding?**

It is the purpose of this consultation to explore funding priorities within the area of independent support and advocacy. It is important for us to hear the views and opinions of those working in this area to help determine the direction and priority of any future funding.

- **How will the independent support sector be consulted on any future funding? How can I get involved in the consultation?**

We would value feedback from independent support and advocacy organisations, carers centres, Health & Social Care Partnerships, other national partners and stakeholders, and any other groups with an interest in how funding is designed for independent support and advocacy. This is an excellent opportunity for you to have your say and offer feedback on what the key priorities might be for any future SiRD funding. To take part in the consultation visit this [link](#).