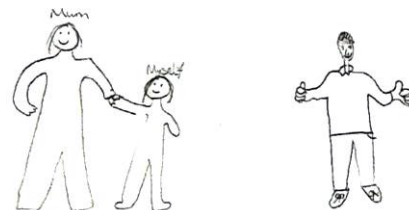


2. Creating an Indicative Budget

- There are currently 5 main financial levels but these are subject to review and may change. The support needs of a child and family are also unique so the following table should be viewed as a rough guide only.
- Some children and families in exceptional circumstances may require additional support but these will be considered on a case by case basis.

Number of Points	Indicative Budget	Support Required
0 - 100	up to £2000	Support is required but needs are predominantly met by the family and wider community. For example, some additional support to attend a weekly Brownie session.
101-200	£2,525 - £5,000	A medium level of support is required which is likely to be regular but not constant. For example, a child with autism who is unable to access out of school activity without a support worker because they struggle in social situations and behave unpredictably.
201-300	£6,030 - £9,000	
301-400	£10,535 - £14,000	A very high level of need, which is present everyday. For example, a child with a physical disability who can communicate needs but requires support to meet these needs.
401-520	£16,040 - £21,000	Exceptional, complex care needs such as around the clock or 2-1 support.



3. Plan Support

- The family and Lead Professional complete a **Outcomes Sheet**, which describes how any money will be spent and the support that will be received.
- The purpose of S-DS is to encourage more creative and effective solutions. However, it must be possible to evidence that any support meets one of the SHANARRI indicators.

4. Authorise Personal Budget and Support Plan

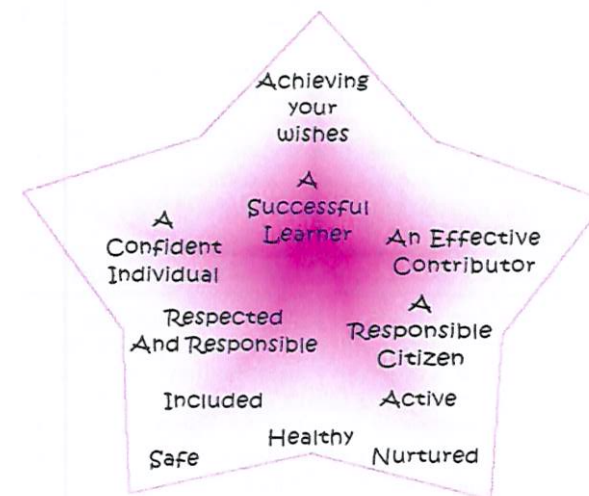
- The final Personal Budget and support Plan is approved by a central **Screening Panel** of District Managers within Highland Council.
- When authorising any cases, the Screening Panel will consider whether the evidence within the **Child's Plan, Allocation Sheet/RAS and Outcomes Sheet** are consistent and accurate.
- If the supported child and family consider the Personal Budget to be insufficient to meet their care needs, the Screening Panel's decision can be appealed and the case will be reviewed by an Area Manager with no prior involvement

For further information, visit the Scottish Government S-DS website:

<http://www.selfdirectedsupportscotland.org>.



Children's Services

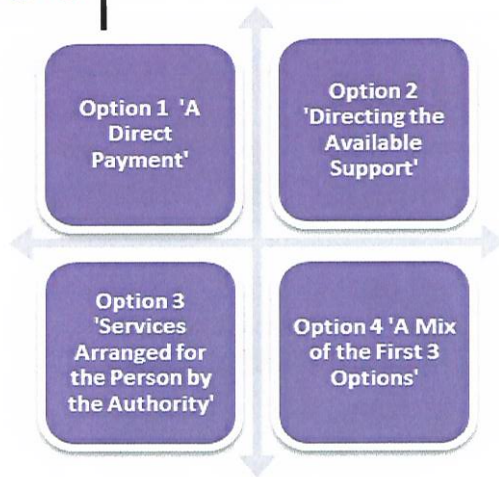


Dignity, Involvement, Informed Choice & Collaboration.

The 4 S-DS options are available if your child is affected by disability. This is defined as a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities (Equality Act, 2010).



The 4 S-DS Options



Option 1 - 'A Direct Payment'

- A cash payment to directly purchase support. This allows the supported child and family to have the greatest level of control and choice over the support they receive. However, it also involves the added responsibility of opening a separate bank account, submitting quarterly financial monitoring forms and potentially acting as an employer.

Option 2 - 'Directing the Available Support'

- This is often called an ISF or Individual Service Fund and is when money is held by Highland Council or another organisation but the supported child and family remain in control of how this money is spent. This option supports those who want greater choice but not the responsibilities of a direct payment.

Option 3 - 'Services Arranged by the Authority'

- This option is where money is held by Highland Council who arrange support. This option supports those who do not want to choose their own support and are happy with everything being organised by Highland Council.

Option 4 - 'A Mix of the First 3 Options'

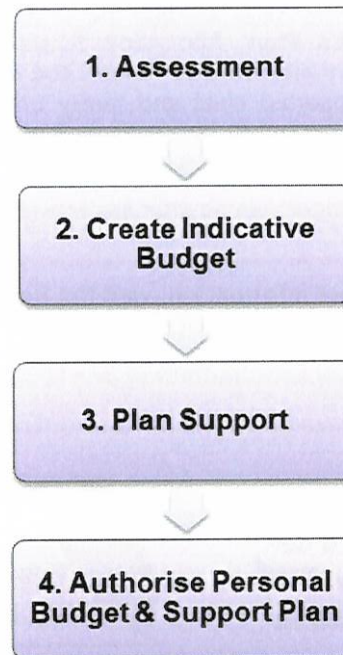
- This is a combination of the first 3 options. This option is suitable for those who want to choose some of their support but also have some of it arranged for them.



A Personal Budget

- A Personal Budget is a sum of money allocated by Highland Council to purchase support.
- A key feature of S-DS is the attempt to define an amount of money or 'Indicative Budget' *before* any support is planned. This ensures greater financial transparency and allows the supported child and family to be directly involved in planning any support.

4 Steps to Receiving a Personal Budget



1. Assessment

Childs Plan

- This assessment is completed by the Lead Professional from Highland Council.
- This document evaluates need by considering the strengths and pressures of the child and family, as well as the outcomes important to them.

Allocation Sheet/RAS

- Section 8 of the Child's Plan is an "*allocation sheet*" or RAS (Resource Allocation System). This measures the level of social care budget a child and family are entitled to.
- This tool is based on the Scottish Government's 8 SHANARRI indicators (see below).
- There are 28 questions in total with 4 questions per SHANARRI indicator. 2 focus on the child, 1 on the family and 1 on the wider community.
- The Lead Professional and the child and family must reach a consensus when answering each individual question.
- There are 6 possible answers for each question (A – F) with a maximum of 520 points available.

P

