

---

## Self-Directed Support Assessment

This factsheet aims to help you understand the assessment process for SDS and what is involved.

### Eligibility

When it comes to who is eligible for SDS this is determined by yours or the person you support's local authority, it is determined through their assessment.

How this is done is by using the criteria from the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968<sup>1</sup>

Currently, the guidance on national standard eligibility criteria regarding adults places the risk into 4 bands:

1. Critical
2. Substantial
3. Medium
4. Low

### The Assessment

To get an assessment you can ask your local council for an assessment of your care needs if the person you support or yourself needs support.

When it comes to assessment and eligibility it is up to the local authority to determine how it approaches the assessment. An assessment is usually carried out by the Council's Social Work services department.

The assessment looks at the needs of the person requiring support.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1968/49/contents>

The assessment is a conversation between you and your council to decide what kind of support you need.

Every assessment is different and should be unique to you and your circumstances.

You will talk and hear a lot about outcomes. These are the things that matter to you, and the results of getting support.

Typically, during your assessment, you will talk about things like:

- What matters to you
- How can this be achieved
- What support would you like to organise for yourself

## How do I ask my local authority for an assessment?

It will depend on your local authority as to how you go about getting your assessment as it is up to your local council to assess anyone who appears to need social care services.

For example, if you live in Aberdeenshire, you can call them or contact them via email. If you live in Argyll and Bute, you can fill out a form via their website. For Glasgow city council you complete a support enquiry/referral via their website that is set out like a questionnaire.