**Social Care Health and Wellbeing Directorate**

**SC-CS**

**Supporting Independence Service Overview Document**

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| **Owner:** | Community Support Team  Strategic Commissioning – Community Support  SCHWB  Invicta House  Maidstone  Kent ME14 1XX |



Supporting Independence Service (SIS)

**What is SIS?**

**The SIS service replaces all supported living, community support service or mental health supported accommodation contracts. These are no longer available.** SIS is a contract which is available across all needs categories including learning disability, mental health, older people, physical disability and children.

SIS can be up to a 24 hour, seven days a week service.

It can be purchased for people living with family or friends or people living in their own home.  It can be on a one to one or shared basis. It can include personal care, but it must also include other support whether at home or in the community.  If support is required purely for personal care please use the domiciliary contract.

The contract specification outlines in more detail the service we have asked the provider to deliver.

**How to purchase SIS**

There is a purchasing protocol for the SIS contract which must be adhered to. The Access to Resources Team will manage the purchasing of any SIS contract.

If you wish to purchase a SIS service please complete the SIS package request form and send it to [AccessToResourcesAdults@kent.gov.uk](mailto:AccessToResourcesAdults@kent.gov.uk)

If you are looking at shared accommodation then it is okay to use the contracted SIS provider who provides that accommodation for the support package – please however still complete a package request form so we can track packages.

If you are looking for a single support package please do not approach providers yourself – please e-mail a request form and we will give you contact details for the provider who can provide the necessary service according to the details you have supplied via the SIS package request form.

SIS and Direct payments

We can only contract with providers who have been awarded a SIS contract. If the person requiring support wishes to purchase support from a non-contracted service provider of their choice they will need to use a direct payment to purchase this support.

SIS or SIS Plus

When making a referral for a SIS package you will need to identify whether the package should be SIS or SIS plus.

If you assess that the person requiring support will require a SIS Plus service please complete the SIS plus assessment form (found on care management templates) and provide this with your referral.  Your SIS Plus assessment form will need to be authorised by a Locality Manager.

​[See our public website for the SIS Specification, SIS purchasing protocol, SIS Framework Contract and Provider lists](http://www.kent.gov.uk/business/grow-your-business/doing-business-with-kent-county-council/supply-goods-and-services/join-our-approved-suppliers-list/social-care-commissioning/specifications-and-terms)

**Contact**

Any questions or referrals please email [AccessToResourcesAdults@kent.gov.uk](mailto:AccessToResourcesAdults@kent.gov.uk) or [dave.harris@kent.gov.uk](mailto:dave.harris@kent.gov.uk)