



# **My Support My Choice:**

## **People's Experiences of Self-directed Support and Social Care**

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(the ALLIANCE)

# The ALLIANCE

*Our vision is for a Scotland where people who are disabled or living with long term conditions and unpaid carers have a strong voice and enjoy their right to live well.*

[www.alliance-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk)

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# What is SDS?

*“Social care is an investment in Scotland’s people, society and economy.” (Scottish Government)*

*“The story of adult social care support in Scotland is one of unrealised potential” (Derek Feeley)*



# Why this research?

*“There are concerning gaps in national and regional SDS data gathering and analysis. Disaggregated data and intersectional analysis by local and national public bodies is essential to develop policy and practice that prioritises equal access to social care for everyone, following human rights principles of equality, non-discrimination, participation and inclusion.” (My Support My Choice National Report Oct 2020)*



# What is 'My Support My Choice'?

- Partnership – the ALLIANCE and SDSS
- Co-production (peer researchers)
- Mixed methods (survey, interviews, focus groups)



# Project development

- Working with local authorities (design, distribution, chapters, feedback sessions)
- Working with third sector partners (design, advertising, recruitment, local contacts/expertise)





# Findings

- Women were less likely than men to have been given key information
- Need for cultural and religious competence – BME report
- Variation in access to SDS for specific disabilities and long term conditions



# Project outputs

- Reports (national, thematic, local)
- Recommendations (large and small)
- Local feedback sessions with varied stakeholders
- Contribution to manifestos and policy work
- Events (national, thematic)





# Informing policy and practice

- Informed Independent Review of Adult Social Care / Feeley Report
- SWS Scotland Standards and working groups
- Workshops with SDS Leads on key themes
- SDS Strategic plans in individual LAs/HSCPs
- Ongoing lobbying of Government and Parliament with new legislation on National Care Service and Reform of Adult Social Care
- *Poverty in Scotland* chapter ([available to download here](#))

# Thank you!

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