

Alice's Story



I am able to do a lot of things, but need help with daily living and keeping safe. I come from a close family and wanted to stay near my parents and friends when I left college, but I didn't want a residential home or a supported living scheme where I couldn't choose who I lived with.

Whilst in college, my family and I attended a New Partnership Project meeting where a speaker from a housing association spoke about shared ownership. We were keen to explore this further as a way of enabling me to live in the village I grew up in, close to my family, and to have a choice of who I might share my home with. My family put together a plan for using my personal budget. It gave me some support during my holidays from college where I was a weekly boarder, and listed what I would like to do when I was at home.

A local registered social landlord agreed that shared ownership was a real possibility. My family and I contacted an organisation that facilitates mortgages for people with disabilities. For a small amount of my personal budget they secured the mortgage, sorted out the income support mortgage payment, handled the housing benefit application and made sure that the finances between the registered social landlord and me are managed on my behalf.

I found a house in the village that I share with my friend Rob who also has a personal budget. We share the overnight support that we both need but have our own PAs (personal assistants), recruited through an independent provider, to help us. Rob and I are very happy in our home and are now looking for a third person to share with us.