



# Disability factsheet

## Moving to Scotland?

### Useful sources of information for disabled people

There are a lot of things to consider and find out about when you are moving to a new area. Listed below is a selection of information sources that may help a disabled person, or a family with a disabled child, plan their move to Scotland. A lot of this information is web-based so if you don't have access to the internet, contact us and we'll see if we can help.

#### Talent Scotland

This is a Scottish Government website which gives lots of information for people thinking of moving to Scotland from outside the UK to work, study and to live. There is information on financial and legal matters, accommodation, health (registering with a GP etc), education, leisure and transport. You can also contact the Relocation Advisory Service for practical advice.

Talent Scotland/Relocation Advisory Service  
5 Atlantic Quay  
150 Broomielaw  
Glasgow  
G2 8LU  
Tel: 0300 244 6826 (calling from UK)  
+ 44 141 278 8826 (calling from overseas)  
Website: [www.talentscotland.com](http://www.talentscotland.com)  
Email: [info@talentscotland.com](mailto:info@talentscotland.com)

#### Education

##### [www.educationscotland.gov.uk/scottishschoolsonline](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/scottishschoolsonline)

This is an online searchable directory of all schools in Scotland, including local authority, independent and special schools. It provides contact details, links to school websites, where available, and inspectors' reports.

#### Enquire

This is an independent national advice service for additional support for learning in Scotland.

Enquire run a helpline for families of children with additional support needs and those involved with them. They have produced a range of publications and factsheets, including: Parents' Guide to Additional Support For Learning, Choosing a School, and Having Your Say at School. Some of these can be downloaded from their website. Contact:

Enquire  
5 Shandwick Place  
Edinburgh  
EH2 4RG.  
Tel: 0845 123 2303 (helpline)  
Website [www.enquire.org.uk](http://www.enquire.org.uk)  
Email: [info@enquire.org.uk](mailto:info@enquire.org.uk)

### Support/Care Services

#### Community Support

Social Work Services are responsible for assessing the care and support needs of disabled adults and children in Scotland, and for arranging services and funding.

#### **[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)**

This is a website which has an A-Z listing of local authorities with links to their websites where the contact details of local social work departments are usually listed.

#### **[www.selfdirectedsupportscotland.org.uk](http://www.selfdirectedsupportscotland.org.uk)**

This is a Scottish Government website giving information about self-directed support for service users and health and social care professionals. This includes support organisations in different local authority areas who can provide practical help and advice on managing direct payments.

#### Residential Services

Local social work services have information about residential services, including respite/short breaks.

#### **[www.bettercaring.com](http://www.bettercaring.com)**

This website lists care and nursing homes across the UK. You can search by geographical area, facilities, types of disability supported etc.

#### The Care Inspectorate

The Care inspectorate is the regulator for care services in Scotland. From their website you can search for care providers in your area and read about The Care Inspectorate's inspection reports of them. They also have a helpline. Contact:

The Care Inspectorate  
Compass House  
11 Riverside drive  
Dundee  
DD1 4NY

Tel: 0845 600 9527  
E-mail: [enquiries@scswis.com](mailto:enquiries@scswis.com)  
Website: [www.scswis.com](http://www.scswis.com)

## Benefits

### **The Department for Work and Pensions**

The government department has an online A-Z of benefits. You can also contact the Benefits Enquiry Line to obtain benefits forms. Contact:

Benefits enquiry line: 0800 882200  
Website: [www.dwp.gov.uk](http://www.dwp.gov.uk)

### **Disability Rights UK**

Disability Rights UK produces a number of fact sheets about benefits. They are available to download from their website. Contact:

Disability Rights UK  
12 City Forum  
250 City Road  
London  
EC1V 8AF  
Tel: 020 7247 8776  
E-mail: [enquiries@disabilityrightsuk.org](mailto:enquiries@disabilityrightsuk.org)  
Website: [www.disabilityrightsuk.org](http://www.disabilityrightsuk.org)

## Housing

Generally there is a shortage of accessible housing in Scotland. Many disabled people face difficulties in finding a house that is accessible to them, or getting the adaptations they need for their home.

**[www.talentscotland.com](http://www.talentscotland.com)** has some general information on buying property in Scotland or applying for council/housing association housing.

**The Scottish Housing Regulator** gives information about housing associations in Scotland on its website.

Contact:

The Scottish Housing Regulator  
Highlander House  
58 Waterloo Street  
Glasgow  
G2 7DA  
Telephone: 0141 271 3810

Fax: 0141 221 0117

Website: [www.scottishhousingregulator.gov.uk](http://www.scottishhousingregulator.gov.uk)

Email: [shr@scottishhousingregulator.gov.uk](mailto:shr@scottishhousingregulator.gov.uk)

### **Disabled Persons Housing Services in Scotland**

These organisations can provide information about accessible housing available in their local area. Contact Advice Service Capability Scotland to see if there is one in the area you want to move to.

### **[www.accessible-property.org.uk](http://www.accessible-property.org.uk)**

This website has a list of accessible property for sale or rent in the UK.

### **[www.mobilityfriendlyhomes.co.uk](http://www.mobilityfriendlyhomes.co.uk)**

This website also has a list of accessible properties for sale in the UK.

### **Council and Housing Association Home Swaps**

If you are a council house or housing association tenant it can be possible to swap tenancies with someone in another property, either in the local area or further afield. Both landlords must be in agreement before you exchange. There are several websites which allow you to advertise for a swap and to search for available properties. The websites are:

[www.councilexchangesite.co.uk](http://www.councilexchangesite.co.uk)

[www.houseexchange.org.uk](http://www.houseexchange.org.uk)

[www.homeswaplist.co.uk](http://www.homeswaplist.co.uk)

## **Health**

### **[www.show.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk)**

This website has contact details for hospitals and NHS divisions. It also has a search facility to search for local GPs and dentists by entering a postcode.

When considering registering with a new GP you can phone the practice manager to ask questions about access to and within the surgery and the arrangements for home visits. GP surgeries are also required to produce an information leaflet about the practice, which you can request.

## **Support for carers**

### **Carers Scotland**

This organisation has information for carers including information on what help is available and guides to community care and carers assessments. It also gives contact details of local organisations around Scotland that can support carers. They are grouped by local authority area. Contact:

Carers Scotland  
The Cottage  
21 Pearce Street  
Glasgow  
G51 3UT

Glasgow  
G51 3UT  
Tel: 0808 808 7777  
Website: [www.carerscotland.org](http://www.carerscotland.org)

### **Shared Care Scotland**

This organisation has an online database of respite facilities. You can search by geographical area, type of break, age or medical condition. Contact:

Shared Care Scotland  
Unit 7, Dunfermline Business Centre  
Izatt Avenue  
Dunfermline  
Fife  
KY11 3BZ  
Tel: 01383 622462  
E-mail: [office@sharedcarescotland.com](mailto:office@sharedcarescotland.com)  
[www.sharedcarescotland.org.uk](http://www.sharedcarescotland.org.uk)

## **Employment**

### **Disability Employment Advisers**

JobCentre Plus has Disability Employment Advisers (DEAs) who can support disabled people in gaining employment skills and finding work. You can find details of your local job centre and information about looking for a job from the website. Contact:

Tel: 0845 6060 234  
[www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)

### **Access to Work**

This is a government funded scheme which can provide advice and financial support for the extra costs which may arise for disabled people in work. Access to Work can contribute to the cost of a number of things including, specialist equipment and fares to work if you are unable to use public transport. For more information you can speak to your Disability Employment Adviser or contact:

Jobcentre Plus  
Access to Work Operational Support Unit  
Anniesland JCP  
Baird Street  
Glasgow G90 8AN  
Tel: 0141 950 5327  
Textphone: 0845 6025850  
Fax: 0141 950 5265  
Email: [atwosu.glasgow@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:atwosu.glasgow@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk)  
website: [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)

Disability Rights UK also has a fact sheet on Access to Work. (See above for contact details)

### Other sources of information

#### Local disability information services

There are quite a few local disability information services across Scotland which have good local knowledge. There is a directory of these services on the website of an organisation called Update. Contact:

Update  
UPDATE  
Hays Community Business Centre  
4 Hay Avenue  
Edinburgh  
EH16 4AQ  
Tel: 0131 669 1600  
E-mail: [info@update.org.uk](mailto:info@update.org.uk)  
[www.update.org.uk](http://www.update.org.uk)

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#### Our Advice Service

Advice Service Capability Scotland is a national disability advice and information service. We specialise in information on cerebral palsy.

#### We offer:

- information on Capability Scotland services
- advice on cerebral palsy
- general advice on disability issues

We also have a small lending library with resources about cerebral palsy and children's books about disability.

You can get in touch with us by calling, e-mailing, dropping in or writing a letter.

This Factsheet can be made available in other formats e.g. audio, large print



Capability Scotland  
Head Office, Westerlea  
11 Ellersly Road  
Edinburgh  
EH12 6HY

Telephone: 0131 313 5510  
Textphone: 0131 346 2529  
Fax: 0131 346 7864  
Email: [advice@capability-scotland.org.uk](mailto:advice@capability-scotland.org.uk)  
[www.capability-scotland.org.uk](http://www.capability-scotland.org.uk)  
Scottish Charity SCO11330