Self-Directed Support Network



Partnership Pack

Advance the development of Self-Directed Support

2026 - 2027

Last revised: 4 August 2026

Background

The Self-Directed Support Network (SDS Network) is the global network leading the development of best practice in self-directed support with 12 established national hubs and a research hub based at the Human Services Research Institute. More hubs are in development. It is hosted by Citizen Network and the Steering Group is co-chaired by Bevin Croft and Simon Duffy, and Chris Watson is the Development Director.

There are over 1500 members of the SDS Network around the world and it includes: people with living experience, families, advocates, commissioners, support providers, practitioners, allies and sector specialists who are committed to improving how self-directed support works in reality.

Our work is practical and focused on making self-directed support work. We create spaces where people can learn from each other, test ideas, share emerging practice and build more personalised, flexible and community-based approaches to care and support. We:

- Work to make the right to Independent Living real
- Support the leadership of people with disabilities and families
- Shape and influence national self-directed support policy
- Publish the Global Standards for Self-Directed Support
- Run online and in-person learning events
- Create peer learning communities
- Share newsletters, updates and practical resources
- Develop briefings, tools, case studies and discussion papers
- Share the latest research on self-directed support
- Gather evidence, stories of lived experience and emerging practice

Our aim is simple. We want to help people and organisations make self-directed support more real, more practical and more effective. We are not a trade body. We are a practical, cross-sector learning network.

Next Steps: To discuss a partnership please contact Simon Duffy, email: **simon.duffy@citizen-network.org**

Partnership

Partnership helps us to sustain and grow the SDS Network. It creates the practical infrastructure needed to organise events, share resources, publish updates, connect people, and support learning across the self-directed support community.

Global Partnership costs £10,000 per year.

Partnership benefit	What's included
Make a difference	Help shift power to people with disabilities and families. Change policy and practice around the world. Grow national and local leadership.
Get involved	Take part in the conversations, meetings and strategy development. Get advice and support from members of the network. Share your expertise and perspective
Show your support	Be featured on the SDS Network website and communications. Use the SDS Network logo on your website and emails. Host events and webinars.