

# KENT SHARED LIVES

## Policies & Procedures

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### (37) Being Missing from a Shared Lives Placement

Kent Shared Lives has responsibilities to protect and promote the health and safety and well-being of people in Shared Lives placements. Most of them will spend time out and about in the community without causing any concerns. However, some people may be confused or easily disorientated and so can become lost. There is also a chance of accidents or other mishaps, so Shared Lives hosts need to know what to do if the person they are supporting does not come home when expected or appears to be missing.

#### How will this happen?

Because the people living in Shared Lives placements needs are individual it is difficult to give definite rules about what Shared Lives hosts should do when a person does not come home when expected or appears to be missing. For one person it might just mean he/she has missed the bus while for another person it could mean he/she is in great danger.

Just as happens in families, it is helpful if the host discusses with the individual their plans, if they are going out and roughly when they are expect to be home again. This helps to avoid false alarms.

Host's need to ensure they advise their individual to let them know if plans change.

If an individual does not return when expected or appears to be missing the host will:

- check around the house and garden and/or immediate neighbourhood
- try to contact the individual on a mobile phone or some other way, for example if they are with friends or family
- check with the person or place the individual was visiting (if known)
- check with any friends or relatives to see if the individual is with them
- contact Shared Lives or the out-of-hours emergency service to let them know and to agree what further action is necessary
- inform the police if the individual is likely to be at immediate risk or when it has been agreed with Shared Lives or out-of-hours emergency service that this is appropriate
- provide the police with a description and any other information they may need (or, if appropriate, work closely with the individuals family to do this)

Once the individual has been found, the host needs to ensure that Shared Lives and/or all relevant people are informed – such as the police, any relatives, etc.

Shared Lives will take responsibility for notifying the Care Quality Commission, if applicable to the individual, [CQC notification finder](#).

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**Contact information:**

Shared Lives contact details: 0300 412400

Out of hours 03000 419191