



Personal Budgets and how your care will be arranged

This factsheet tells you what to expect after you have contacted us and had your needs assessment. Please see the 'How to find the right care and support' factsheet for information on how to start the process.

What is a Personal Budget?

If you have eligible needs, you will be offered a financial assessment. We will allocate you a sum of money to cover the cost of support to meet those needs. This sum is your Personal Budget. We may ask you for a contribution towards this budget, which is your Fairer Contribution. We will work with you to write a Care and Support Plan which gives you details of your assessed needs, how they may be met and the cost of this. Please note that if you do not want a financial assessment, you will be expected to contribute the full cost of your Personal Budget.

We will contact you regularly to ensure your care needs are being met.

How you can manage and use your Personal Budget

You can choose from three options to manage your Personal Budget:

- with a Direct Payment - your Personal Budget goes directly into a bank account for you to pay for your own care support services; or
- we can manage the money for you and we arrange the services that have been agreed; or
- a mixture of the above two options

You can use your Personal Budget to meet your care needs and to support goals or outcomes identified in the Care and Support Plan agreed at your needs assessment.

There are many ways you can do this, including:

- purchasing personal care which can be provided by your own Personal Assistant or using a care agency of your choice that is registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC);

- attending a day opportunities group as an alternative to attending a day centre;
- purchasing respite care to enable an unpaid carer to have a break.

Your Personal Budget should only be used to meet your care needs set out in your Care and Support Plan. If you are unsure about this please contact your social care worker or the Adult Social Care Contact Centre (details over the page). If you are receiving Direct Payments you can contact the Direct Payments Advice Service:

- Bournemouth and Christchurch locality clients

telephone 01202 451863

email direct.payments@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

- Poole locality clients

telephone 01202 261033

email dpadviceservice@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Other factsheets that may be relevant

- How to find the right care and support
- The Financial Assessment
- Fairer Contributions
- Direct Payments

Contact details

If you would like to find out more about this service please telephone your Social Care Worker or the Adult Social Care Contact Centre.

For more information about services please go to www.mylifemycare.com.

To download a copy of this factsheet:
www.poole.gov.uk/adultsocialcarefactsheets



We can give you help to read or understand this information:

Adult Social Care Contact Centre

Tel. 01202 123654

Email asc.contactcentre@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

For those who are deaf, have hearing loss or who are speech impaired:



Text Phone 07747 757570