



● Direct Payments Scheme

What are Direct Payments?



Once the Council has agreed you need support you can choose if you would like to have a Direct Payment.



Direct Payments are for people who would like to choose their own care and support services.



If you do not want to choose your own care and support we can arrange services for you.

Who can have a Direct Payment?



- anyone who has an assessed need who would like a Direct Payment (with help if they need it).



- carers over the age of 16.



- an 'authorised person'. We can ask someone to look after the money and pay the bills if you are not able to do this.



If you would like to know more about getting a Direct Payment for someone else, please call their social worker.

How much will your Direct Payment be?



This will be the amount of money the Council says it will cost to pay for your services.



The Council might pay some or all of the money for your services.



After a financial assessment, we may ask you to pay some money towards the cost of your services.

Your Direct Payment will be paid into an account every 4 weeks.



This account can only be used for Direct Payment money.



You will need to put the money that we ask you to pay towards services into the same account.



What you can use your Direct Payment for



To pay for the services we agreed in your Care and Support Plan.

This can include:



- personal care - employing your own staff, or using a care agency of your choice.



- day opportunities - day activities or going to a day centre.



- short term care for your carer to have a break.

Help to manage your Direct Payment



The Direct Payments Advice Service can help you. You can phone them on 01202 261133.



Many people look after their own Direct Payment account once it has been set up.



We can get someone to help you with paying the service bills while you stay in control of who to choose for your care.

Making sure your Direct Payment is working for you



After 6 weeks we will meet with you to check that your assessed needs are being met.



We will agree how often you would like to meet up to talk about how things are going.



You will need to keep all of the bills and invoices for your Direct Payment account to show us how you are using the money.

Other factsheets that may help you



- Personal Budgets and how your care will be arranged.
- Financial Assessment.



You can find the website address for all Poole factsheets on the next page.

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



You can find easy read factsheets at:



Poole Civic Centre reception



The Community Learning Disability Team



You can download factsheets from:



www.poole.gov.uk/adultsocialcarefactsheets

Or email: sshelpdesk@bcpcouncil.gov.uk



If you need help to read information ask for help from:



Adult Social Care Help Desk: 01202 633902



Community Learning Disability Team: 01202 605830



People First Forum: 01202 746040



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