



Leicestershire  
County Council

# Direct Payments



Together we do make a difference



Produced in April 2007 by:

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Leicestershire LE3 8RL

## What are Adult Social Care Service Direct Payments?

Direct Payments are money paid to you so that you can buy the care and support that the Adult Social Care Services agrees that you need.

For example:

- Personal care
- Care in your own home
- Support to do things outside of your home
- Pay for community activities
- Stay in a residential care home
- Equipment

## Who can get Direct Payments?

People who are assessed as entitled to have support from the Adult Social Care Service, and who are not legally excluded from receiving direct payments.

- People who have a physical disability
- People with a sensory impairment
- People with a learning disability
- People who are experiencing mental ill health
- Older frail people
- Parents of disabled children
- People living with HIV or Aids
- Carers of people in any of these groups

## What do you get from Direct Payments?

They allow you to choose who helps you. You can choose what time they come to help you and what they will do for you. You can organise your care to suit your needs and change your care arrangements whenever you need to.

They give you more control over your life and may improve your self confidence. You will have more independence over what you do and, importantly, you set the standards.

Having a Direct Payment is not an all or nothing choice, you can have some services arranged for you and have Direct Payments for the rest.

## What about spending my Direct Payment?

You can use your Direct Payment to pay for:

- A friend or person you employ to help you
- An organisation or care agency who can help you
- Respite care for up to 4 weeks in an independent registered care home
- Access to activities in the community
- A family member to look after you if they do not live in the same household

You can't use your Direct Payment to buy:

- Services from the local authority
- Rent or property maintenance
- Holidays, travel, clothes, music, food, pets etc.



## How is my Direct Payment worked out?

The Adult Social Care Service will agree how many hours of care you need every week, then multiply that by an hourly rate to work out how much you will get. The total Direct Payment amount may include a contribution from you towards the cost of care. The total Direct Payment, including your contribution, is the amount you will use to plan and budget for your support.



## What commitment do I need to make?

You have to open a new bank account so that the Adult Social Care Service can monitor how the money is spent. You will sign an agreement which says how and what you can spend the Direct Payment on. You also take on responsibility for managing your care arrangements and any employment responsibilities for your own staff like legal contracts, health and safety and tax. You will have to write and keep records.

## What support can I get?

If you would like to have a Direct Payment but are worried about how you will manage, you can ask someone you trust to act as your Representative. A Representative is someone who will take over the responsibility of managing the payments for you but you must still have control over how the payments are used. The Adult Social Care Service also provides a Direct Payments Support Service to support people who wish to have a payment and need help to get started.

## How do I apply?

Contact your local Adult Social Care Service office, where you can talk to somebody about Direct Payments. Once you have been assessed as entitled to help and you have said that you wish to have a Direct Payment, the Adult Social Care Service's worker can fill in the application forms and work out how much payment you can get. They can contact the Direct Payments Support Service to arrange a visit to help you to plan and arrange your support.



## Local Adult Social Care Service offices

South Leicestershire	0116 2787111
Hinckley and Bosworth	01455 636964
Melton	01664 564698
Harborough	01858 465331
Charnwood	01509 266641
North West Leicestershire	01530 275200

## Useful websites to find out more

Department of Health	<a href="http://www.dh.gov.uk">www.dh.gov.uk</a>
National Centre for Independent Living	<a href="http://www.ncil.org.uk">www.ncil.org.uk</a>
Health and Social Care Advisory Service	<a href="http://www.hascas.org.uk">www.hascas.org.uk</a>
Independent Living Funds	<a href="http://www.ilf.org.uk">www.ilf.org.uk</a>
Valuing People	<a href="http://www.valuingpeople.gov.uk">www.valuingpeople.gov.uk</a>
Commission for Social Care Inspection	<a href="http://www.csci.org.uk">www.csci.org.uk</a>
Leicestershire County Council	<a href="http://www.leics.gov.uk">www.leics.gov.uk</a>

আপনি যদি বাংলা ভাষায় এই ধরনের কোন একটি তথ্য বা খবরা খবর চান, তাহলে আরো বিস্তারিত জান্য 0116 265 7404 নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਹੋਰ ਵੇਰਵੇ ਦੇ ਲਈ  
ਵਿੱਖਾ ਕਰੋ 0116 265 7404 ਉੱਪਰ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

यदि आपको इसमें से कोई भी जानकारी की आवश्यकता हो तो (आपको चाहिए वो  
भाषा दर्ज करें) अधिक विवरण के लिए 0116 265 7404 टेलीफोन करें।

अगर तमने आमांथी कोर्ष पझा ज़ाज़कारी ज़ोर्षती होय तो मडेरमानी करीने (तमने ज़ोर्षती  
भाषा अर्डी ज़ाज़ावो) विगतवार ज़ाज़कारी माटे 0116 265 7404 टेलिफोन करो.

اگر آپ ان میں سے کوئی معلومات اُردو میں حاصل کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو مزید معلومات کیلئے  
براہ کرم 0116 265 7404 پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔

If you would like help understanding any of this information  
in your language, or for any general enquiries, please  
phone: **0116 265 7404**, fax: **0116 265 7440**,  
minicom: **0116 265 7459** or e-mail: **AdultSocialCare@leics.gov.uk**