
















## What are direct payments?

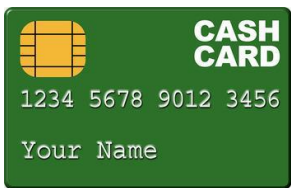





	<p>A direct payment is money you can get to pay for your care and support, that has been agreed in your support plan, instead of the council arranging this for you.</p>
	<p>Your social care worker will talk to you to understand what matters to you and agree what support you need. We call this a Care Act 2014 Assessment.</p> <p>They will help look at the different types of support in your area to find the right one for you.</p>
	<p>If you need support that has to be paid for, your social care worker will agree how much money you can get- this is called a 'Personal Budget'.</p>
	<p>You can choose the support you want and have control over who supports you.</p> <p>You can use the payments to be more independent and you will have responsibility to look after your payments.</p> <p>You can get help to look after your direct payments.</p>








	<p><b>What can you use a direct payment for?</b></p> <p>Examples of how direct payments have been used in Doncaster in the past are below.</p>
	<p>✓ To employ a Personal Assistant (PA) to help you with your personal care.</p>
	<p>✓ To provide respite for your carer.</p>
	<p>✓ To access social activities.</p>
	<p>✓ To accompany you and support with shopping or domestic tasks.</p>
	<p>✓ To support to carry out parenting duties.</p>

	<p><b>Why choose a direct payment?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>You</b> can be more independent.</li> <li>• <b>You</b> have more control in your life, by choosing the time you need support.</li> <li>• <b>You</b> can make your own decisions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>You</b> choose who helps you manage your money.</li> <li>• <b>You</b> decide who gives you the support you need.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>How do I get a direct payment?</b> You can discuss this with your social care worker if you have one.</p> <p><b>Or</b></p> <p>You can get in touch to talk about what support is available in your local area and how to manage a direct payment by contacting us:</p>
	<p>☎ 01302 737391</p> <p>🏛 Doncaster Council, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU.</p> <p>✉ <a href="#">Online Adult Contact</a></p>
	<p>If you are eligible for support, you could choose to receive this as a direct payment (with support if you need it).</p>









	<p>You can have the direct payment paid onto a direct payment card.</p> <p>You will have a card which is like a bank payment card.</p>
	<p>You manage this money and use it to buy your support.</p> <p>It is not a credit card – you cannot get into debt.</p>
	<p>You can also have the direct payment sent to a company who can manage it on your behalf.</p> <p>They will manage this money and use it to pay for your support.</p>
	<p><b>Will I need to pay anything myself?</b> You will be given a financial assessment first. Then you may be asked to pay for some of the services.</p>
	<p><b>What do direct payments involve?</b> Most people can manage a direct payment with the right support and information.</p>
	<p>Your money is to help make your life better and your social care worker will plan the support you need to make this happen.</p>





	<p>You will need to keep receipts to show how you have spent money on your direct payments.</p>
	<p><b>You do not have to do this on your own. You will get support from:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A social care worker</li> <li>• Family or friends</li> <li>• Paid organisations</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Employing a Personal Assistant</b> If you choose to employ your own personal assistant, there are some things you may want some help with below.</p>
	<p>✓ Help to look for the right person who will help you with your support plan.</p>
	<p>✓ Help with contracts, safety checks, insurance and keeping records.</p>



	
	<p>✓ Keeping records: help you with your money, paying bills and keeping records.</p>
	<p><b>What can't direct payments be used for?</b> The law says you cannot spend the money on:</p>
	<p>✓ Household bills.</p>
	<p>✓ Things that are against the law.</p>
	<p>We will then visit you annually to ensure you are managing.</p>



	<p>You do not have to have Direct Payments. A social care worker can still take care of things for you. Some people decide to use direct payments for some things and ask a social worker to sort the rest.</p> <p>If you decide to try out direct payments, you can still change your mind, just let us know.</p>
	<p>Please use this area to write down any other numbers you may need:</p>
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