



Independent
Living Fund

A response to some common questions

Background information

On 6 November, the Court of Appeal overturned the Government's decision to close the ILF. This means we have now stopped our transfer review programme.

Does this mean the ILF is no longer closing?

The Government is considering the Court of Appeal's decision carefully and we will write to you once we have any further updates on the future of the ILF.

Are you accepting new applications?

No. The Court of Appeal decision was about the Government's decision to close the ILF as an organisation. We have not reopened to applications, but we will continue to support our current users.

Where can I find more information?

We will keep our website up to date and you can ask your caseworker to send you an up to date user guide.

Why was my transfer visit cancelled?

If you had a transfer review visit planned we had to cancel this visit because it was about the support you needed to transfer to your local authority.

Will I get another visit instead?

Yes. It has always been our policy to review our users' care and support needs at least every couple of years. These review visits will start again on 18 November and we will write to users individually to let them know when their review is due.

I have already had my transfer review visit - what will happen to me?

The transfer review visits included parts of our normal review visits, with some additional discussion about the transfer to local authorities. If you've already had a visit this year, we will keep the support plan but the parts that discussed transfer will not be acted on. You should not need a review for another couple of years unless you have a change in circumstances.

I'm a group 1 user. What is happening about sharing my data with my local authority?

We have contacted all local authorities and asked them to destroy any group 1 data we sent them. We are also going to write to all group 1 users to explain what we have done with their data.

Can I have my support plan returned from the local authority?

Your support plan is a snapshot of your support at a moment in time and is a useful record for local authorities. If you have concerns you should contact your local authority directly.

Will the ILF keep my support plan?

Yes. We will keep a copy of your transfer support plan on your file as it captures the discussion which took place and is a record of your support requirements.

Can I have an increase in my care costs now that you are not closing?

We are able to look at increases to employer costs only. Please refer to your user guide or our booklet called your responsibilities for more information. You can also discuss any changes to your award with our assessor at your visit.

Can I still apply for a flexible payment?

One of the conditions for the ILF making a flexible payment was that using ILF funding in a different way would assist you in the transfer to your local authority. We are therefore no longer able to consider flexible funding requests.

When will my ILF payments stop?

As long as you continue to meet our eligibility requirements, we will continue to support you. We will write to you to let you know about the future of the ILF when Government has taken a new decision.

Will the ILF staying open affect me moving from Disability Living Allowance (DLA) to Personal Independence Payments (PIP)?

No. From 28 October people in Wales, East Midlands, West Midlands and East Anglia will start to be transferred from DLA to PIP if they have a change in need, come to the end of their fixed term award or choose to claim PIP for the first time. We have amended our rules so that if you are transferred to PIP you will continue to be eligible for ILF funding provided you receive either rate of the daily living component.

What should I do about ILF money that I do not spend?

You may keep up to one week's worth of your normal ILF award as a contingency. You may also need to keep money aside to pay for employer costs such as national insurance contributions for your PA. Any money left over must be returned to us.



Other formats

This information sheet is also available in:

- Braille
- Audio
- Large print
- Other languages

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