

Direct Payments

What you need to know



What are direct payments?

Direct Payments is money paid directly to you by Hampshire County Council so you can arrange services or buy equipment for yourself.

Who can receive Direct Payments?

The vast majority of people getting social care services from the council have the right to Direct Payments:

- ✓ Older people who have been assessed as needing community care services.
- ✓ Disabled people aged 16 and over.
- ✓ Families with disabled children (contact Children's Services on 0300 555 1384).
- ✓ Disabled parents (contact Children's Services).
- ✓ Carers, in place of receiving carers' services, including those with short as well as long term needs.



How do I get Direct Payments?

To receive Direct Payments you must be eligible for social care services from the council, choose to have Direct Payments and be able to manage the money, with support if necessary.

Eligibility is determined from your social care assessment and there are a few people excluded from the receiving Direct Payments under legislation. A social care practitioner can tell you more about this.

Why should I consider Direct Payments?

Direct Payments put you in control of your own lifestyle. **You** can employ people or buy services or equipment **you** choose, to provide the assistance that **you** need. For example you could choose to:

- ✓ **Arrange** for an agency to provide your care
- ✓ **Employ a personal assistant** to provide personal care and/or support
- ✓ Pay for equipment that will help you to live a more **independent** life.

Where can I find out more about Direct Payments?

Hampshire County Council is working in partnership with Independent Lives who provide Direct Payments advice and support. If you are interested in Direct Payments and think you may be eligible for our services, please contact Adult Services on **0300 555 1386**.



Direct Payments

The choice is yours...

- **Direct Payments**

You could choose to have Direct Payments and manage all of your own services. For example, you may want to arrange for an agency to provide your care or employ a personal assistant.

- **Mix of Direct Payments and a Provided Service**

You may choose to manage some of your services and have some managed by your care practitioner.

- **Provided Service**

You may choose not to have Direct Payments and have all of your services managed by Hampshire County Council.

Contact Information

Adult Services: 0300 555 1386

Children's Services: 0300 555 1384

Textphone / Minicom: 0300 555 1390

General Enquiries & Switchboard: 0300 555 1375

Adult Services. April 2015