



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>



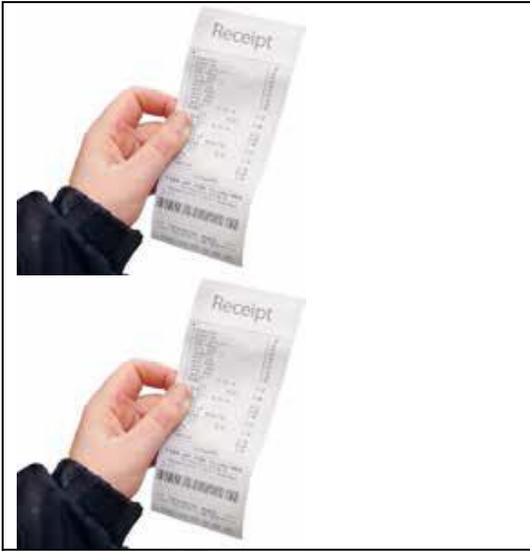
	<p>What can you use a direct payment for?</p> <p>Examples of how direct payments have been used in Doncaster in the past are below.</p>
	<p>✓ To employ a Personal Assistant (PA) to help you with your personal care.</p>
	<p>✓ To provide respite for your carer.</p>
	<p>✓ To access social activities.</p>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

	<p>Why choose a direct payment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can be more independent. • You have more control in your life, by choosing the time you need support. • You can make your own decisions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You choose who helps you manage your money. • You decide who gives you the support you need.
	<p>How do I get a direct payment? You can discuss this with your social care worker if you have one.</p> <p>Or</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>✉ Online Adult Contact</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>Will I need to pay anything myself? You will be given a financial assessment first. Then you may be asked to pay for some of the services.</p>
	<p>What do direct payments involve? 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>You do not have to do this on your own. You will get support from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A social care worker• Family or friends• Paid organisations
	<p>Employing a Personal Assistant 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><small>LABOURERS OF BARRING SERVICE</small></p> <p><small>Criminal Records Bureau</small></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>What can't direct payments be used for? 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>



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.

If you decide to try out direct payments, you can still change your mind, just let us know.



Please use this area to write down any other numbers you may need:

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