

Independent Living

The Rowan Organisation is committed to enabling disabled people to live independently and take control of their lives, by providing support, advice and information.

Direct Payments

Do you:-

- need assistance to live independently?
- qualify for help from the Social Services Department?

If so, you may be able to get the money paid directly to you through their Direct Payments Scheme.

This is an alternative to Social Services buying services for you - you can use this money to purchase the services you need.

This scheme is available to disabled people aged 16 and over, a person with parental responsibility for a disabled child and carers aged 16 and over.

Who Qualifies?

To qualify for direct payments you must:-

- be eligible for services from the Social Services Department
- be willing to receive Direct Payments and manage them, with assistance if required
- be able to make decisions or express preferences about the services you receive
- make arrangements to keep accurate financial records

How can they be used?

Examples include:-

- Employ your own personal assistants or,
- Buy services from a private sector care agency or,
- A mixture of the two above
- Pay for day opportunities
- Pay for transport costs
- Pay for equipment
- Pay for respite or short breaks

Although some variations and restrictions may apply, Local Authorities can be both flexible and imaginative to ensure you receive the most appropriate support package.

Support

The Rowan Organisation's Adviser can discuss your needs and options as well as provide:-

- Information about the scheme
- Support to access the scheme
- Support in recruiting workers including:-
 - drawing up job descriptions
 - drawing up and placing adverts
 - short-listing and interviews
 - appointments and contracts
 - advice on all aspects of employment legislation
- Help with establishing financial records
- A payroll service