



Easy Read



Direct Payments in residential care- an introduction

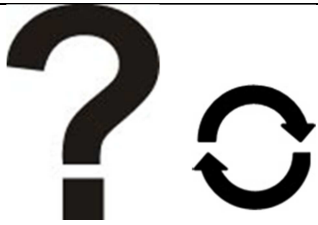


What is a Direct Payment?

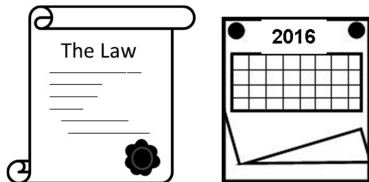
A direct payment is where we provide you with money to arrange your own services to meet your social care needs



Now a direct payment can be offered to people in residential or nursing care



What is changing?



The Government is changing the law from April 2016 so people living in care homes can have a direct payment.



This means that you can buy your care directly from a care home, rather than the council arranging it for you.



Nottinghamshire is one of the councils working with the Department of Health to test the payments out.

This work will be looked at by a university who will write a final report to the Government in 2016



This will help the Government to decide how direct payments will be used to buy care home placements in all councils from April 2016.



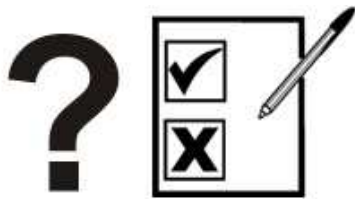
How will it work?



- The direct payment will be the same amount we currently pay the care home. You will not get more money to pay for your care placement



- There is a support service to help you take on all the responsibilities of managing a direct payment



- You will be asked to complete a questionnaire at the start of the direct payment and then every 6 months



- You can choose to end the direct payment and return to a managed service at any time



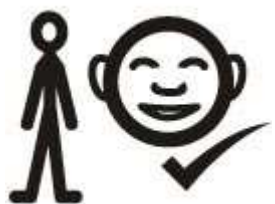
Can a person have a direct payment if they lack capacity?



Yes if there is a “suitable person” who will be responsible for it.



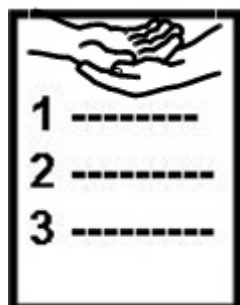
This person can be someone who has Power of Attorney; a Court of Protection appointed Deputy, a family member, friend, or carer



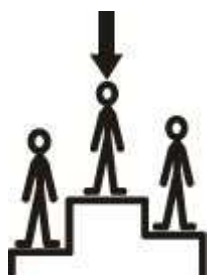
The suitable person must be available and willing to make support decisions and manage the direct payment.



How can I use my direct payment?



You must use the direct payments to meet outcomes that have been written down and agreed in your support plan.

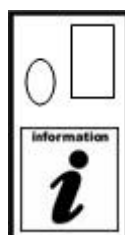


The support plan is one of the most important parts of the direct payment.



It looks at what is important to you and what you want to achieve with the direct payment.

We aim to provide a list of what your direct payment is being spent on in the care home. It will cover how you will be kept safe.

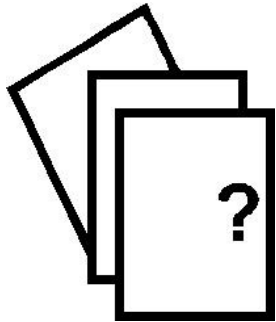


For more information on personal budgets, support planning and direct payments see our fact sheet:

Social Care Support: assessment, support planning and personal budgets



What difference will a direct payment make to my care and support?



This is what we will be testing out.



We know that when people choose direct payments in the community they have more choice and control over how their care and support is provided.

We will be learning how this works in care homes.

We hope that there will be lots of options available for how you can use the direct payment to meet your outcomes.



We think that by having a direct payment you will be able to be more creative and flexible when deciding how to meet your identified outcomes.

As this is a new, we will be learning together by sharing experiences.

If you would like to be involve, or want to learn more, contact Debbie Draper who is the Project Manager and she will be very happy to come and talk to you.

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