

Caring for a Personal Budgets user

If you are caring for someone in receipt of a Personal Budget, you might be entitled to a Personal Budget Direct Payment in your own right.

All carers are entitled to a carers assessment.

If you provide regular and substantial support to a PB user, you are considered a carer and as such you may be entitled to a PB Direct Payment in your own right. In that case you should ask for a PB carer assessment

Carers might indirectly benefit from services directly delivered to the PB user (e.g. personal care, day centre; participation in community activities; domestics; respite care, short break etc.) As these services are included in the Service Users Personal Budget, the cared for person may have to pay a financial contribution towards the cost of these services.

Please note that Personal Budgets and Direct Payments are not transferred to CHC, therefore when a PB user starts receiving CHC funding, their carer is not eligible for a Personal Budget Direct Payment.

Carers are not financially assessed

Carers do not pay any contribution towards the cost of the support directly provided to them.

Personal Budgets are not a replacement of income and therefore do not affect any other benefits you may be receiving.

For more information, please refer to <http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/index.htm> or call the government Carers Helpline 0808 808 7777

Personal Budgets Direct Payment for someone caring for a PB user

If after a carer assessment it is confirmed that your caring role has a substantial or critical impact on your health and/or quality of life and that there is a great risk for the current caring arrangement to break down, your Personal Budget carers' allocation will amount to £500.00 per year.

PB/DP allocation for carers is paid as a one-off payment into the carers personal bank account.

Getting the support you need

As a carer, you can spend your PB Direct Payment to purchase the services you are assessed as needing to support you in your caring role. This includes support that may help maintain your health and well-being. For example, driving lessons or a holiday so you can have time to yourself.

You must only use your Carers Personal Budget Direct Payment to get services or equipment that will help you fulfil your caring role and not for a service provided directly to the cared for person.

Review of carers needs and use of PB/DP for carer

Carers PB/DP are allocated for a year.

Carers are asked to provide, on an annual basis, evidence of how they have spent their PB Direct Payment money. They are required to submit receipts and/or invoices to the Local Authority once a year.

After a year the needs of the person you are caring for and your needs will be reviewed.

If your circumstances change please contact the Access Team on 01225 396000

This document/publication/leaflet about 'Personal Budgets Direct Payment for Carers' can be made available in a range of community languages, large print, Braille, on tape, electronic and accessible formats from the Information Officer
information_officer@bathnes.gov.uk - Tel (01225 477983) Minicom (01225 477043)

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