Direct Payments for Unpaid Carers

If you have had an assessment and are eligible to receive a community care service, then you will be offered direct payments.

Instead of receiving services from the Council, you can choose to receive the money and buy the service from somewhere else. This gives you more choice, control and flexibility, because you will be controlling who provides the care/service and when.

The money will be paid into a dedicated bank account to pay salaries and relevant expenses. You can use the money to decide how to meet your personal needs that are in your Care Plan. The direct payment is not considered as income, so it will not affect your income tax.

You must be willing and capable to manage direct payments, but there is a lot of support and help available.

You can receive direct payments if you are:

- Someone over the age of 16 who provides regular and substantial care to an adult
- Parent or a person with parental responsibility for a disabled child
- Disabled person with parental responsibility for a child
- Young person over the age of 16 who is disabled
- Someone between 18 65 years of age who is in receipt of community care services
- Someone over the age of 66 who is in receipt of community care services

For more information or to make an application, contact Social Services by phoning your local Community Resource Team:

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