

Personal Budgets in Lincolnshire

A Personal Budget is made up of the amount it would cost to meet your agreed support needs. This money can either be paid direct to you so that you can arrange your own care and support or we can arrange this for you, or a combination of the two.

A Personal Budget gives you the independence to:

- Choose and control the support that is best for you.
- Be fully involved in decisions about the help you need to live independently.
- Support yourself in ways that suit you.

How do I access a Personal Budget?

To receive a Personal Budget you must first have had a needs assessment which identifies that you need care and support to meet your unmet eligible needs. The assessment process will help to gather and share information to build an understanding of your situation. An assessment will be completed with you to help understand your own strengths, what you can do for yourself, what support you have around you as well as where you have difficulties. It also helps to understand the outcomes which you want to achieve. Please speak to your assessor if you would like more details about what an assessment involves or see the Care and Support in Lincolnshire Factsheet.

The assessment process will help determine your needs and give an indication of how much money you need in your Personal Budget. The Resource Allocation System (RAS) may help by indicating an appropriate amount to meet your unmet eligible needs or we can calculate a budget based on the cost of services you require. Once the amount is agreed you can start planning how to spend it. We will help you to do this by using our experience to agree a plan which helps meet your support needs.

Care and support planning

If you meet the eligibility threshold we will develop a care and support plan with you. We will have

captured your needs and what outcomes you want to achieve in relation to them in each area of the assessment. These needs and outcomes form the basis of your care and support plan.

The plan will include eligible and ineligible needs and show how all your needs are going to be addressed including where eligible needs are to be met through your informal support.

If you have a carer with support needs or live with someone else who has care and support needs you may wish to consider a combined support plan to meet both of your needs.

Some people choose to develop their own plan. When you know what your indicative Personal Budget will be you will need to decide how you will use it to meet your identified needs. The purpose of the Personal Budget is for you to be in control of how you meet your eligible needs and achieve the outcomes that you want to achieve. You can decide what will be in your plan on your own, or with the help of family, friends, or Adult Care.

For further information on care and support planning ask your assessor or see the Care and Support Planning in Lincolnshire Factsheet.

Will I manage my Personal Budget?

Once it has been established that you need a Personal Budget and your care and support plan is agreed we can organise how you will receive the money. It can be paid directly to you, to someone else if you aren't happy dealing with the money yourself or we can arrange for a service provider to manage it for you.

The most choice and control is usually achieved by having a direct payment which enables you to buy care and support directly from individuals or organisations. Alternatively you can ask for Adult Care to make arrangements to meet your care and support needs.

With a Direct Payment you spend the money in ways that best meets your needs and you are in control as long as you spend the money in accordance with your agreed plan. We will check with you from time to time to make sure everything is going OK and that you are living your life in a way that suits you.

Contributing to your Personal Budget

If you receive a Personal Budget you will have a financial assessment to determine whether and how much you have to contribute towards the cost of your care and support. The financial assessment should not take place before we assess your needs. This is to ensure that your financial circumstances do not impact on the needs assessment process and the support we give you to understand your needs and how they can be met.

What if my needs change?

At any time, if your support needs change, you can ask for your care needs to be looked at again. Adult Care will carry out a review which will look at how well your care and support plan is working and if your support needs have changed. This may involve a new assessment and care and support plan.

The First Person to Contact

If you think that you have care and support needs you can contact Adult Care on telephone number 01522 782155 (Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm) and request an assessment. Everyone who appears to have care and support needs is entitled to an assessment.

What about confidentiality?

We respect your privacy at all times. Any information you give us will be treated as confidential and will only be shared with people involved in your care, with your permission - other than in exceptional circumstances, where the law says we must share it with someone else. To assist you with any care or support you may need, we need to store the information we collate about you on our electronic system.

You can gain further information about this by discussing this with your assessor or by reading the [How we use your information leaflet](#).

Alternative Formats

If you would like to request a copy of our Personal Budgets in Lincolnshire fact sheet in an alternative language or format please call **01522 782060**

Polish

Informacja ta jest również dostępna w innym języku i formacie. Jeśli masz jakiegokolwiek pytania, prosimy zadzwonić pod numer wyżej

Russian

Эта информация также доступна на другом языке и формате. Если у вас есть какие-либо вопросы, пожалуйста, позвоните по номеру выше

Portuguese

Esta informação está também disponível em outro idioma e formato. Se você tiver alguma dúvida, por favor ligue para o número acima

Latvian

Šī informācija ir pieejama citā valodā un veidā arī. Ja jums ir kādi jautājumi, lūdzu, zvaniet uz numuru, iepriekš

Lithuanian

Ši informacija taip pat buvo pateikta kita kalba ir forma. Jei turite kokių nors klausimų, prašome skambinti numeriu aukščiau

Slovak

Táto informácia je k dispozícii aj v inom jazyku a formáte. Ak máte nejaké otázky, zavolajte prosím na číslo vyššie