

# how can I receive my personal budget?

**Personal budgets are designed to be flexible and fit people's individual circumstances. Talk to your care manager about the different ways of managing your budget and which would work best for you.**

Your personal budget is designed to give you choice and control over your social care support and the way it's provided. How much you want to be involved in managing it is up to you. Here are the ways you can choose to receive and manage your budget:

## ***Direct payments to you***

Payments are made directly to you so you can manage your budget yourself.

## ***Direct payments to a suitable person***

If you need or want help to manage direct payments, these can be made to someone else who manages them on your behalf. This person must be someone reliable who will manage things in your best interests – like a close family member.

## ***Direct payments to a Trust***

Payments can be made to a group of people who manage the money on your behalf. This group is called a Trust and would usually be a small group of reliable people of your choice—like close friends and family members.

## ***Individual Service Funds***

You can ask a provider to hold your budget and organise your support on your behalf. Your care manager can give you more information about this option.

## ***Local authority-managed budget***

You can ask Leeds City Council to hold your budget and organise your support on your behalf. If you choose this option you can buy support from the council's own services, or from providers they already work with.

## ***Mixed budget***

A combination of the above. For example, you could receive part of your budget as a direct payment, but ask the council to manage another part.

- Find out more in the factsheets '*What is a support plan?*' and '*What is a resource allocation system?*' – information on how to get copies is overleaf.

Turn over  
for further  
information



# Find out more about personal budgets and directing your own support

## personal budgets and employing PAs

- **Fact sheets** – find the rest of the series at [www.leeds.gov.uk/personal\\_budgets](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/personal_budgets)
- **Booklet: *Your Personal Budget*** – more detail about the different steps to getting a personal budget.
- **Short film: *Personal Budgets in Leeds*** – people in Leeds talk about using personal budgets to live more independently. Watch it online at [www.leeds.gov.uk/personal\\_budgets](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/personal_budgets).
- **Peer support** – talk to people who already use a personal budget! Contact Free to Live, the Personal Budgets Peer Support Network, on 0113 214 3594 or visit their website at [www.freetoliveleeds.org](http://www.freetoliveleeds.org).
- **Employing personal assistants (PAs)** – if you're going to be recruiting and employing your own PAs, ask for a copy of the *Leeds Guide to Becoming an Employer*. If you're using an agency, see 'Choosing services and support', below.
- **Further information** – visit the council's website [www.leeds.gov.uk/personal\\_budgets](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/personal_budgets) for loads more information including frequently asked questions, a glossary of terms, and more.

**No web access?**  
No problem. You can get copies of all booklets, fact sheets and other information from your care manager, or by phoning Customer Services on 0113 222 4401.

## choosing services and support

- Visit [www.leedsdirectory.org](http://www.leedsdirectory.org) to find local services online. Search by service, postcode or the area where you live. Or phone the Directory Helpline on 0113 391 8333 for advice or a paper copy.
- **Booklet: *Guide to Buying Services and Support*** – tips on making the most of your budget when dealing with suppliers.

*Collect the factsheet series!*

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