

SUPPORT BUDGETS

“Your life in your hands”

Would you like to choose who delivers your care and support at a time that is convenient with you?

Do you want to be in charge of your own life and in control of your own care package?



If you've answered 'yes' to these questions, **Support Budgets** could be the answer for you.

0 If you would prefer a different format or language or you would like any further information please contact our Single Point of Access Team on 0300 456 1000



SUPPORT BUDGETS FROM COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

In this booklet you find out what Support Budgets in Denbighshire are, how they work and the options you will have for choosing how your care and support needs are met.



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What is a Support Budget?

If you are eligible for social care Denbighshire County Council can now give you money to allow you choice and control over how you meet your needs. This is called a Support Budget.

It can be used to pay for things like:

- Personal care
- Support to live in your own house
- Support for going out
- Equipment

Who can get a Support Budget?

Everyone who is eligible for a managed care and support plan from the Council will have a Support Budget.

In determining if you are eligible for a Support Budget, we will need to take into account any welfare benefits you receive.

There are three types of Support Budget in Denbighshire

The three types of Support Budget available give you the amount of choice and control you want in the planning of your care and support package and meet your needs in new and different ways.

1. Local Authority Managed Budget
2. Third Party Managed Budget
3. Self-Managed Budget

You can also have a mixed package of the above.

- 1. Local Authority Managed Budget** – You will know how much your Support Budget will be, however the money will be held by the Council. You and an officer from the Council will identify what you want to achieve and create a care and support plan and appoint a care provider. If you want a care provider different to the one appointed then you will have to choose a different type of Support Budget.
- 2. Third Party Managed Budget** – This is where the money is paid to a third party organisation and you will both agree how the money will be spent to meet your care and support needs. The care and support plan will need to be checked by the Council to ensure it is legal, likely to meet outcomes and falls within the budget.
The main contract is between the Council and the third party organisation and will be based on your care and support plan.
- 3. Self-Managed Budget** – This is where the money is paid to you or your representative to meet your agreed care and support needs. This type of Support Budget provides you with the most choice and control.
You could, for example, employ a Personal Assistant. In this case we can help you by directing you to an organisation who could support you to ensure you fulfill your responsibilities as an employer.
The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 has increased your options on how money is spent on care and support e.g. you can now spend the money on a care home or employing a member of your own family.

Pooled funding

Pooled funding is useful when two or more people put some or all of their support budget funding together to purchase care and / or support more cheaply, e.g. two people in the same household having the same care agency/Personal Assistants several people who enjoy the same activities can purchase support more cheaply doing things together.

Will I have to contribute towards the cost of the care and support?

A financial assessment will be carried out to see if you need to make a contribution to the cost of your care and support.

The financial assessment means we have to go into detail about any income you receive, including welfare benefits and allowances, and what you have as savings.

If you prefer not to have a financial assessment, you will have to contribute the maximum amount towards your care and support plan, which is currently (2018-2019) up to £80 per week (or pay the actual charge for your care and support if it is less).

Can I get a Support Budget for assistive equipment or a housing adaptation?

If you have been assessed as needing some specialised equipment or small adaptations to your home (usually under £1,000) the Council may provide these free of charge or, in some circumstances, may give you a Support Budget to pay for them e.g. if you have a valid reason to use a different supplier. Occupational Therapists in the Council can help you.

If you have a Support Budget for this purpose, the equipment/adaptation will then belong to you and you will be responsible for maintaining it.

Where can I get more detail about Support Budgets in Denbighshire?

- Denbighshire's Single Point of Access on 0300 456 1000.
- Make an appointment to see someone in your local Talking Point. Single Point of Access can give you the details.
- Talk to your Social Worker, Social Care Practitioner or Occupational Therapist by ringing their Team directly.

What other sources of information are available?

- **Community Support Services**
Single Point of Access 0300 456 1000
Out of hours emergencies 0345 053 3116
- **Carers UK** – how do I get a Direct Payment
<https://www.carersuk.org>
- **Citizen's Advice** – using Direct Payments for care
<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/wales>
- **Dewis Cymru** – the place for information about well-being in Wales
<https://www.dewis.wales/>
- **Disability Wales** - your first port of call for information, comment, opinion and opportunities for getting involved in campaigning for disability equality.
<http://www.disabilitywales.org/>

This is a draft document which will be reviewed in January 2019.

Please contact our Customer Connections Team if you would like to comment on this to help with the development of new Guidance Booklets via

0800 032 1099 or ssdcomments@denbighshire.gov.uk