

# Direct Payments – Easy Read

## Money that enables you to choose who gives you the support that you need.

### What is a Direct Payment?

A Direct Payment is money from Halton Borough Council to buy care and support you need so that you can arrange your own care/support instead of the council arranging them for you.

Direct Payments are a way of having more choice and control over your day-to-day life through flexible care.

A Direct Payment gives you the money to pay for the things in your support plan. The Council will work with you to make your support plan.



### How do I get a Direct Payment?

Most people who have help from Adult Social Care, can have a Direct Payment. If you can't have a direct payment, we will tell you why.

Your Social Worker or Care Manager should talk to you about direct payments when they look at what care you need and support you to make your support plan.

You must spend your money on the things agreed in your support plan.



### Do I have to use Direct Payments?

No the choice is yours

If you do choose to use Direct Payments and then change your mind we can arrange services for you.



## What will I need to do if I chose to have a Direct Payment?

To get a direct payment you, or somebody who is acting on your behalf must:

- Understand what a direct payment is.
- Know how to look after the money
- Keep proper records on how you have spent your Direct Payment (we can help you with this).



Keep proper records on how you have spent your Direct Payment ( we can help you with this).



## Some of the different types of things you can use your direct payment for are:

A Personal Assistant who can support you to do the things you want to do in your life.



Help you with your personal care when you go to work



Doing different leisure activities



## Some things you cannot use your direct payment for:

Household bills



## Residential Care



Lots of things you would buy for your house

### **Important things to remember about Direct Payments:**

- You, or the person who looks after you, must show that the direct payment money can be looked after properly.
- If you have a Personal Assistant, you must show that you can manager them.
- There are lots of different people who can help you manage your direct payment



### **How can I find out more about Direct Payments?**

You can talk to your social worker if you have one or phone:

- Halton Borough Council Adult Social Care team on 0151 907 8306
- Halton Borough Council Childrens I Cart Team on 0151 907 8305
- Halton Borough Council Direct Payments Team on 0151 511 7575

