

Personalisation and Personal Budgets – Doncaster Council Adult Services

What are Personal Budgets?

Personal Budgets mean:

- You have a central role in deciding what your support needs are
- You are in control of the money you need for your support
- You can choose how to spend that money
- You can get help in choosing how to spend the money

Who are Personal Budgets for?

Personal Budgets are for any adult who has social care needs and is eligible for help from social care services.

NHS Doncaster is also working to make Personal Health Budgets possible for people with ongoing health needs.

How is it different to the old system of social care?

Under the old system:

- Professionals made the decisions about what kind of support people could have and who would provide it
- This meant that the person needing support did not have any choice in or control over the support they needed

How do Personal Budgets work?

Personal Budgets customers will go through the following steps. Professional support is provided throughout:



1. **My money - finding out how much.** The first thing to do is to find out if you can get money for support - and how much.



2. **Making my support plan.** The second thing is to make a plan about how you'll use the money to get the life you want. You can do the plan yourself or you can have help to do it - as much as you want.



3. **Getting my plan agreed.** A care manager at the council has to say your plan is ok.



4. **Organising my money.** You can have the money paid to you or the Council can manage the money for you.



5. **Organising my support.** You can organise the support in a way that suits you. You can get help to find and organise your support.



6. **Living life.** You can use services and you can buy things that will help you in your life.



7. **Seeing how it worked.** You have to show that you have used the money properly.

What is happening in other places?

All Local Authorities are developing Personal Budgets, in line with government policy and direction.

What is happening in Doncaster Adult Services?

Adult Social Services is reorganising working arrangements so that Personal Budgets can be made available to all customers.

This is a big change because everything (from ways of working, to the computer systems) is tailored to the old system and staff also have to learn how to provide social care services in the new way.

It is important to roll out Personal Budgets in a managed way to make sure that the new working arrangements are feasible, and that good customer service continues.

Progress so far:

- All new customers for Area Teams can receive Personal Budgets now
- New customers for the Community Autism Team can receive Personal Budgets

Next steps:

- Make Personal Budgets available to existing customers of traditional services, through their annual reviews or if they have a review due to a change of circumstances
- Roll Personal Budgets out to the Learning Disabilities Service, and hospital based teams

What else?

Personal Budgets make it possible for customers to choose how to spend the money they are entitled to, to meet their care needs.

We are working hard to make sure that there are a range of service options available in the local area so that customers can really exercise choice.

We are working hard to develop support services which will help customers take control of their Personal Budgets (such a brokerage, PA registers and advocacy).

The Council is planning how to take this forward. NHS Doncaster will also be looking into this.

Want more information?

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