Directorate of Adult, Community & Housing Services

# direct payments

helping you choose the services you need



#### What are Direct Payments?



Direct Payments are cash payments given to you to pay for your care.



This allows you to choose who helps you, when they help you and what they do.

## What are the advantages of Direct Payments?



People who receive Direct Payments say the payments give them more choice and control over their lives.

### How do I qualify for Direct Payments?



You may be able to get Direct Payments if you have a physical, sensory or learning disability



and are receiving social care services.



If you are not already receiving social care services you will need to have an assessment of need first to see if you are entitled.



## What can I spend my Direct Payments on?

You can spend the money on services or support to meet your care needs.



This may include personal care support,



short-term breaks



or involvement in social, leisure, sport, educational, training and work activities.



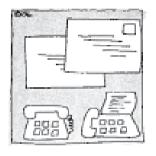
#### Can anybody help me?

An independent organisation called A4e can help you with advice and support about money and work.



## I'm interested in Direct Payments; what should I do now?

If you have a social worker they will be able to give you more information



or you can contact the Direct Payments Team.



Direct Payments are not a benefit and should not be confused with the direct payment of benefits from the Department of Work and Pensions.



#### How to contact us



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