

Personalisation – personal budgets/direct payments



People who are eligible to receive social care because of a disability and/or caring responsibilities.



Personalisation is about supporting those who are eligible to receive services to have greater choice and control by enabling them to self-direct their care and support. Individual budgets are identified (mostly social care funding, but increasingly bringing together funding from across other public services that the person is entitled to) in order to meet their personal needs and preferences. Individuals are able to choose to access and manage this funding through a personal budget and/or direct payments.



Visit the the 'Transforming Adult Social Care' website targeted at social care practitioners for information: www.puttingpeoplefirst.org.uk.



- Get contact details for the personalisation team from the local council. Telephoning may be the easiest and quickest route, or visit the council website. You may need to use the search box and search 'direct payments' rather than 'personalisation', as not all council sites use this term yet.
- Implementation of personalisation is the responsibility of local authorities and local procedures, eligibility criteria, etc. may vary.
- Funds (including direct payments) can be used to support learning, develop employability skills and enable progression to paid or unpaid employment.
- 'Right to Control' pilots started in December 2010 in a few places in the UK; further roll out is planned in 2011-12. The government plans to implement a range of strategies that will further develop patient-led control of social care and health funding.

