

Direct Payments in Hackney



Making choices for an independent future

This leaflet is a guide to Direct Payments in Hackney – a way of having more control over the way you receive community or social care

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This leaflet is available in other formats including large print, Braille, audit cassette, computer disc and email. Contact Hackney Council's Community Services Public Information Manager on 020 8356 3980 or email amanda.elliott@hackney.gov.uk

What are Direct Payments?



Direct Payments are cash payments local authorities can make to people who are eligible for community or social care services.

These payments can give you more freedom, choice and control about when and how you receive services by letting you arrange your own social care or support.

Direct Payments exist to help you live life more independently and make more choices about what happens to you, when it happens and how it happens.

Direct Payments are not counted as income so they do not affect any welfare benefits you are entitled to.

Who can have Direct Payments?



You may be able to get Direct Payments if you are 16 and over and have been assessed as needing a community care service. You will also need to show that you are willing and able to manage a direct payment (with help if needed). Those who may be eligible for direct payments include:

- People with a physical disability
- People with a learning disability
- People with sensory impairment
- Older people
- People experiencing mental ill health
- Carers over 16 who have had their needs assessed by the Council
- An adult with parental responsibility for a disabled child
- Carer of a disabled child including parents or others with parental responsibility who has been assessed as needing a service
- An adult carer of an adult who has a disability or who is eligible for services

The law says the following people cannot receive Direct Payments:

- People receiving certain treatment under the Mental Health Act
- People receiveing treatment for substance misuse
- People receving compulsory social care under a court order
- People going through the criminal justice system

After your needs have been assessed, our staff will talk to you about whether or not direct payments are suitable for you.

What can I spend Direct Payments on?



You can only spend Direct Payments on services that meet your needs described in your assessment. The type of services you can spend the money on include:

- personal care such as dressing, washing or eating meals
- practical help with shopping, cleaning or preparing meals
- short breaks (respite care)
- day time recreational and leisure activities
- special equipment

You cannot use Direct Payments for:

- Permanent or residential nursing care
- Equipment or services normally provided by health, housing or education services
- Employing a close relative living with you, except in exceptional circumstances where it is agreed by the council

What responsibilities will I have?



Having Direct Payments gives you more choice and freedom. But it also involves responsibilities. You must:

- sign an agreement that says you will spend the money on the services you are assessed as needing
- set up a separate bank or building society account with a cheque book
- recruit and employ staff and abide by employment law and regulations
- organise and manage your staff and their day to day tasks
- keep records of your payments and spending which we will check

Can I get help with employing staff and managing Direct Payments?

Hackney's Direct Payment Support service can offer a range of advice, and information on ways of managing Direct Payments. There is also an advocacy service available for more advice. However, a condition of Direct Payments is that you are in control of decision making and that responsibility for making sure the payments are managed properly lies with you. You are the employer and you will be employing people to work for you.

Is there anything else I should know?

Some clients may need to pay a charge towards the services they receive. This will be discussed at your assessment.

You can mix and match Direct Payments and traditional social care support. For example, you could receive some Direct Payments to pay for a personal assistant but still choose to attend a council day centre.

You cannot make any cash withdrawals from the Direct Payments account.

How do I find out more about Direct Payments?



Elderly people, people over 18 with physical or sensory disabilities or long term illness should contact:

Access Team

1st Floor, Flanders Way
205 Morning Lane, London E9 6JX
Tel: 020 8356 6262
Minicom: 020 8356 3356
Fax: 020 8356 4638
Email: access@hackney.gov.uk

OR

Hackney Direct Payments Support Service

Ground Floor, 205 Morning Lane
London E9 6JX
Tel: 020 8356 2354
directpayments@hackney.gov.uk

People already in touch with mental health services should contact their local mental health team:

South Hackney Community Mental Health Team

Donald Winnicott Centre
Coate Street, London E2 9AG
Tel: 020 7033 6100

North Hackney Community Mental Health Team

The Junction, City and Hackney Centre for Mental Health,
Homerton University Hospital
Homerton Row, London E9 6SR
Tel: 020 7275 1000
Fax: 020 72751001

How do I find out more about Direct Payments?



For adults with learning disabilities contact:

The Learning Disabilities Service

3rd Floor, St Leonard's
1 Nuttall Street N1 5LZ
Tel 020 7301 3030

If your child has a permanent or long lasting and substantial disability, contact:

Disabled Children's Service

Hackney Ark, Downs Park Road
London E5 2HY
Tel: 020 7014 7000
Mincom: 020 7014 7002
Fax: 020 7014 7001

Further advice and support



DABD (advocacy service)

Pembroke Gardens
Dagenham, RM10 7YP
Tel: 0208 592 8603
Fax: w0208 8220 5266

Centre for Independent Living

4th Floor, Hampton House
20 Albert Embankment,
London SE1 7TJ
Telephone: 0207 587 1663
Fax: 0207 582 2469
Text: 0207 587 1177

City and Hackney Carers Centre

96-102 Springfield House
London E8 2LZ
07941 945 092 (temp number during move)

Age Concern Hackney

22 Dalston Lane
London E8 3AZ
020 7249 7149

If you would like to find out what this document says please tick the appropriate box, put your name, address and phone number at the bottom of this page and return it to the address below.

Bengali

এই দলিলে কি লেখা আছে সে সম্পর্কে যদি আপনি জানতে চান তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে উপযুক্ত বাক্সে টিক দিন, এই পাতার নীচে আপনার নাম, ঠিকানা ও ফোন নম্বর লিখুন এবং এটি নীচের ঠিকানায় ফেরত পাঠান।

Somali

Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd in aad ogaato waxa dokumeentigani sheegayo fadlan calaamadi godka ku haboon, ku qor magacaaga, cinwaanka iyo telefoon lambarkaaga boggan dhankiisa hoose ka dibna ku celi cinwaanka hoose.

French

Si vous désirez connaître le contenu de ce document, veuillez cocher la case appropriée et indiquer votre nom, adresse et numéro de téléphone au bas de cette page et la renvoyer à l'adresse indiquée ci-dessous.

Spanish

Si desea saber de lo que trata este documento, marque la casilla correspondiente, escriba su nombre, dirección y número de teléfono al final de esta página y envíela a la siguiente dirección.

Kurdish

Ger hun dixwazin bizanibin ku ev dokument çî dibêje, ji kerema xwe qutîka minasib îşaret bikin, nav, navnîşan û hejmara telefona xwe li jêrê rûpel binivîsin û wê ji navnîşana jêrîn re bişînin.

Turkish

Bu dökümanda ne anlatıldığını öğrenmek istiyorsanız, lütfen uygun kutuyu işaretleyerek, adınızı, adresinizi ve telefon numaranızı bu sayfanın alt kısmına yazıp, aşağıdaki adrese gönderin.

Polish

Jeśli chcesz dowiedzieć się, jaka jest treść tego dokumentu, zaznacz odpowiednie pole, wpisz swoje nazwisko, adres i nr telefonu w dolnej części niniejszej strony i przeslij na poniższy adres.

Vietnamese

Nếu bạn muốn biết tài liệu này nói gì hãy đánh dấu vào hộp thích hợp, điền tên, địa chỉ và số điện thoại của bạn vào cuối trang này và gửi lại theo địa chỉ dưới đây.

Urdu

اگر آپ یہ جاننا چاہتے ہیں کہ دستاویز میں کیا لکھا ہے تو ازراہ کرم مناسب باکس میں صحیح کا نشان لگائیے اور اپنا نام، پتہ اور فون نمبر اس صفحہ کے نیچے لکھئے اور اسے نیچے دیئے گئے پتہ پر واپس بھیج دیجئے۔

Chinese

如果你想知道這分文件的詳細內容，請在方框內打鉤，在本頁下面寫下你的名字、地址和電話號碼並寄到下面的地址。

If you would like this document in any of the following formats or in another language not listed above, please complete and send the form to the address below.

In large print

On Disk

In Braille

On audio tape

In another language, please state:

Name:

Address:

Tel:

Return to: Direct Payments, Community Services,
205 morning Lane, London E9 6JX

Produced by Hackney Design, Communications & Print • March 2009 • PJ37632