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"Formate alternative te ketij publikimi ofrohen me kerkese. Kjo perfshin dhe gjuhe te tjera, me shkronja te medhaja, shkronja per te verberit, kasete degjimi, disk kompjuteri ose email."

Albanian

আপনি যদি অনুরোধ করেন তাহলে এই পুস্তিকাটি বিকল্প ছাঁদে, যেমন, অন্য কোনও ভাষায়, বড় হরফে, ব্রেইলে, অডিও-ক্যাসেটে, কমপিউটারের ডিস্কে বা ইমেলের মাধ্যমে পেতে পারেন।

Bengali

"本刊物備有其他的格式可供索取。這些包括有其他語言版，大字版，盲人用版，錄音帶版，電腦磁碟版或電子郵件版。"

Chinese

प्रार्थना करने पर यह प्रकाशन दूसरे रूपों में प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। जिस में सम्मिलित है, दूसरी भाषाओं में, बड़े छापे में, ब्रेअल, सुनने की टेप पर, कम्प्यूटर की डिस्क पर या ई-मेल द्वारा।

Hindi

"ਇਹ ਪੁਸਤਕ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਰਨ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਜਿਵੇਂ ਕਿ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ, ਵੱਡੇ ਛਪੇ ਤੇ, ਬ੍ਰੇਲ ਵਿਚ, ਸੁਣਨ ਵਾਲੀ ਟੇਪ ਤੇ, ਕੰਪਿਊਟਰ ਡਿਸਕ ਜਾਂ ਈ ਮੇਲ ਤੇ।"

Punjabi

"اس اشاعت کو متبادل اشکال میں درخواست کرنے پر حاصل کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ اس میں دوسری زبانیں، بڑا پرنٹ، بریل (بڑے حروف پر پرنٹ)، کمپیوٹر ڈسک یا ای میل شامل ہیں۔"

Urdu

DESIGNED BY PEAR TREE DESIGN 0845 838 2898



Cash for Care

DIRECT PAYMENTS FROM
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT

Direct Payments are all about giving people control, choice and flexibility over the care services they are assessed as needing. It is about people gaining independence over what happens to them.

THIS GUIDE TELLS YOU ALL ABOUT IT



100% recycled paper
Using vegetable based inks

Printed by: Oxfordshire County Council's Design and Print Unit
Tel: 01865 815672 Fax: 01865 204309 0000-00 (00/00)



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COUNTY COUNCIL**
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What Are Direct Payments?

Living independently does not mean you have to live on your own without any company. It is about making your own choices about what happens to you, when it happens and how it happens.

Under the Community Care (Direct Payments) Act 1996 and the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000, local authorities are allowed to make cash payments to people who are eligible for community or social-care instead of arranging a service.

From April 2003, under the Health and Social Care Act 2001 local authorities have a duty to make Direct Payments available to everyone who is eligible.

Direct Payments are a way in which people who receive community or social-care services have more independence, choice, flexibility and control over the way the services they have been assessed as needing can be provided or arranged.

We make Direct Payments so you can arrange and buy the services that you need.

However, Direct Payments are not treated as income, so they will not affect any welfare benefits.

Who can Have Direct Payments?

If you are 16 or over (there is no upper age limit) and have been assessed by Community Services as needing a service, you may be able to get a Direct Payment.

You must also have either:

- a physical disability
- a sensory disability
- a learning disability
- HIV or AIDS
- a mental illness (although there are some exclusions relating to being held under mental health law), or
- be an older person eligible for services.

Carers may also be able to get Direct Payments to pay for services that they are eligible for, so they can carry on in their caring role. This will apply if you are:

- the carer of a disabled child who has been assessed by Children's and Young Peoples Services as needing a service
- a 16- or 17- year-old carer, or
- an adult carer of an adult who has a disability or who is eligible for a service.





What Can Direct Payments be used for?

You can use Direct Payments for any community or social-care services you have been assessed as needing. These can be, for example:

- personal care such as help with dressing, washing or eating meals
- help with transport
- an opportunity for carers to have a break from their caring role (respite)
- short-term residential care breaks
- opportunities for day time activities, *and*
- providing special equipment.

You can use your Direct Payment to employ someone you know and trust, for example; a friend, relative, neighbour, agency or you can advertise for a personal assistant.

However you cannot use Direct Payments to:

- employ a close relative living with you (unless we are satisfied that it is necessary to meet your needs).

You don't have to use Direct Payments for everything on your careplan. You can have a mixture of Direct Payments and local authority services. For example, you can employ your own personal assistant to meet your assessed care needs and still continue to go to a council day centre if you want.

However you cannot use Direct Payments to:

- buy services from us, in other words use a Direct Payment to pay for a place at a council-owned day centre.



What Responsibilities will I have?

It is important to understand that you or your trustee has responsibilities with Direct Payments.

Oxfordshire County Council runs an innovative 3rd party scheme which will take most of the responsibilities away if you would like.

However if you want to manage the Direct payment on your own you must:

- use the money to pay for the help that we have agreed you need
- keep to employment laws and regulations if you recruit and employ staff
- organise and manage staff's day-to-day tasks
- open a separate bank or building-society account, *and*
- keep records of all payments you have received and made and send us details when we ask.

Is there help available?

Yes, you can have as much help as you need to manage your Direct Payments. This could be family, friends, through a user controlled Trust, 3rd party or power of attorney. However, you must have overall control over any decision-making and we must agree that you are eligible for services and that you meet the conditions for Direct Payments.

An independent Direct Payments information and advice service have Direct Payments workers who can help you with any questions you may have. If you decide to go ahead, The Direct Payments information and advice service can arrange training and other practical help so you can manage your Direct Payments on your own.

Staff at the Direct Payments information and advice service can tell you more about the services they provide.

The Third Party Support Scheme offers much more in depth support, they can receive your Direct Payments and help to find, pay and manage staff for you.

This will give you the choice over who works with you but none of the responsibilities of managing workers or dealing with tax, opening bank accounts etc.



You can contact the Direct Payments information and advice service and their workers will be happy to give you more details.

If you are using Direct Payments, you can share advice and provide support at user groups run by the Direct Payments information and advice service.

If you decide that you would like to apply for Direct Payments, you can contact the team listed below.

If you have a Social Worker or Care Manager please contact them directly for further information or for:

Adult and Children's Services

Access to Information and Services is as follows:

Telephone	0845 0507 666
SMS	07788 571577
Fax	01865 854443
Postal Address	Oxfordshire County Council, PO Box 221, Kidlington Delivery Office, Oxford, OX5 1XD
Email	access@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Out of Hours Emergency	0800 833408 (freephone)