

Factsheet 308 – 25 June 2008 (4 pages)



An easy guide to Direct Payments

What are Direct Payments?



A Direct Payment is money social services can give you to buy the support you need.



You can buy your support instead of having social services doing it for you.



This gives people more choice in their lives.



Anyone who gets help from social services has a right to a Direct Payment.



You will need to know if you meet the Fair Access to Care eligibility criteria (some rules about who gets care, and who doesn't). Talk to your Care manager about this.

What can Direct Payments be used for?



If you have a Direct Payment you have money to buy the services you need. The money is paid into your bank account.



You can use the Direct Payment money to legally employ a person to help you. Or you can use it to buy agency services or you could have a mix of both.



Direct Payments can be used to buy help for lots of things, such as support with...



getting washed and dressed



cooking



shopping



to help you at work or college.

Why choose Direct Payments?



You can have more choice and control and you can choose who supports you.



Direct Payments help you to do the things in your life that you want to do.



There are some things Direct Payments cannot be used for.

Who can help?



If you want to know more, contact:

Direct Payments Team

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Further factsheets can be found online at www.devon.gov.uk/factsheets

Also see the Learning Disability Devon website:
www.learningdisabilitydevon.org.uk/

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