

Information for people receiving a Personal Health Budget via Fast Track Pathway

A Personal Health Budget (PHB) is money to support your identified healthcare and wellbeing needs, planned and agreed between you or your representative, and your local NHS team. There are three key steps to meeting health and wellbeing needs under the Personal Health Budgets system:

STEP 1 – ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS

Your care manager/nurse will talk with you about what would support your health and wellbeing needs.

STEP 2 – BUDGET ALLOCATION

Your assessment of needs is used to calculate an 'indicative budget'. An 'indicative budget' is an estimated amount of money needed to meet your health and wellbeing needs.

STEP 3 – SUPPORT PLANNING, CARE PLANNING AND USING THE BUDGET

Your care manager/nurse will then work with you, and those who support you, to decide how best to use the Personal Health Budget to meet your needs. This will include your choice of how care is delivered. This is written in a care/support plan, which both you and your care manager must sign.

While it can take some time to set up your health budget, we will make sure that this doesn't cause a delay in being discharged from hospital and an interim care package will be offered through a care provider under the notional budget option.

There are three types of Personal Health Budget:

DIRECT PAYMENT: You get a payment to buy the services you and your care manager/coordinator agree you need. You must show what you have spent it on, but you buy and manage your services yourself (or with the help of PHB Support Service).

You can ask someone to be your representative or nominee and they would be responsible for buying and managing the services on your behalf.

NOTIONAL BUDGET: The money is held by the NHS, but your care manager/coordinator/nurse will tell you the money available to meet your needs. A notional budget is for individuals who do not want or cannot manage direct payments. You and your care manager will then agree what services you want to pay for.

THIRD PARTY BUDGET: This is where the money is paid to an organisation that holds the money on your behalf. This is set up to manage the budget on your behalf and be accountable for the money.

If you would like to discuss your options with the PHB Support Service, please contact them on **0151 288 6060 or visit **www.phbsefton.org.uk** for more information**

OTHER ELIGIBLE GROUPS INCLUDE:

- adults eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare
- children in receipt of continuing care
- people who are eligible for after-care services under section 117 of the Mental Health Act
- people who meet the eligibility criteria of their local wheelchair service