

# Adult Social Care Factsheet – One off and ongoing Carers Direct Payments

## Having a One off/ongoing Direct Payment for a Carer

A one off and ongoing carers direct payment is a way for the council to pay an agreed amount of money directly to you, so that you can have more choice and control over how you are able to maintain your own health and wellbeing as a Carer.

### Who can have a One off/ongoing Direct Payment?

You can have a carers direct payment if:

- Following a Carers assessment, the Council agrees that you are eligible.
- Your Carers needs (and the outcomes you wish to achieve) are agreed between you and the Council and written down in your Carer support plan

### What can you buy with a One off/ongoing Direct Payment?

The direct payment is for the costs associated with practical and wellbeing support to meet the assessed eligible needs as outlined in your Carer Support Plan. All activities and support funded through the direct payment must be safe and legal.

A discussion would be conducted between yourself and the Carer Support Worker or Social Worker to agree what was going to be purchased and ensure it met an eligible need.

Some examples may be: Practical support which may include a gardener, cleaner, Carer Breaks, courses or services to promote your health and wellbeing,

### How is my direct payment amount calculated?

Following a carers assessment and the eligible needs outlined in the Carer Support Plan will outline what support you need to continue your role as a carer. This can be through connecting you to services in the community to support you in your role, or with commissioning direct payments. This can be as either a one-off carers direct payment, ongoing direct payment or a mixture of both.

A one-off direct payment is anything up to £500, any further one-off requests can only be made 12 months after the last one-off request. An ongoing direct payment is a weekly direct payment up to a maximum of £66.50 per week. The actual amount received will be discussed and agreed with the Carer Support Worker or Social Worker during the Carer Support Plan phase.

### How are direct payments paid?

The payment will be paid directly into your bank account once the agreement has been signed and returned to the Direct Payments Team. (See Attached)



The council has the right to seek repayment of the Direct Payments if any of the terms and conditions of this agreement have not been met, including providing a proof of purchase within 28 days.

### **Where can I get more information and advice?**

For further information you can contact:-

The Carers Support Team on 01925 444400

