



An introduction to **Direct Payments** Lambeth



Choice, Control and Independence In social care

Money to pay for the support you need

What are Direct Payments?

- Direct Payments are cash payments made directly to you by the local authority.
- It is money to buy and arrange the support you need instead of Social Services providing that support for you.
- Direct Payments give you choice and control over when, where and how your support is provided.

What can Direct Payments be used for?

You can use the money for anything which meets the needs assessed by your Care Manager or Social Worker. This might include;

- Personal care, getting up, washing or dressing, preparing meals, shopping, housework, getting out, going to work, help to look after your child, a piece of equipment, or support for you to go on holiday.
- You could employ your own Personal Assistant to help you do these things, or you could use the money to buy in help from an agency.

Who can have Direct Payments?

- Disabled people aged 16 or over.
- A disabled parent.
- A person with learning difficulties.
- A user or survivor of mental health services
- Parents of disabled children under 16.
- Carers aged 16 or above, for their own needs as carers.

Will support be provided to help me manage Direct Payments?

- The Disability Advise Service Lambeth (DASL) will help you with all aspects of managing your Direct Payments.
- This includes help with deciding what you need, learning how to recruit staff, keeping financial records and much more.
- The DASL also offers opportunities for you to be in touch with other people who use Direct Payments.

Advice and information

The Direct Payments Support Service is managed by Disability Advice Service Lambeth (DASL).

Contact a Direct Payments Advisor on:



Tel: 020 7738 5656

Fax: 020 7924 9621

Email: direct.payments@disabilitylambeth.org.uk

Web: www.disabilitylambeth.org.uk

You can also contact your Care Manager on:

Tel: 020 79265555adults
020 79266907children
& young
people

Web: www.lambeth.gov.uk

Minicom: 020 7926 6605

This leaflet and other information about Direct Payments is available in large print, Braille, audiotape and translations can be made available.