



# ND Care & Support

## A guide to Direct Payments...

### What Are Direct Payments?

Direct Payments are intended to empower customers by allowing them more choice and control over the services they use to meet their needs.

Each person in receipt of direct payments is given an amount of money to be managed by themselves, possibly with the aid of others such as family or an external organisation. This money can be used to purchase services that meet the person's assessed needs.

As the money given to the person is given in lieu of the local authority providing the care, the money remains public money belonging to the local government who makes the payments. Users must, therefore, account for the money every step of the way so the local government can maintain its auditing requirements.

### Am I Eligible?

You can only get direct payments if you've been assessed by social services as needing care and support services.

Direct payments can be made to:

- disabled people aged 16 or over (with short or long-term needs)
- disabled parents for children's services
- carers aged 16 or over (including people with parental responsibility for a disabled child)
- elderly people who need community care services.

ND Care and Support can still provide care for individuals in receipt of direct payments. Using ND Care and Support allows you the flexibility that direct payments offer with none of the worry of being an employer; we will take care of all of the recruitment, vetting, payroll training and ongoing supervision of staff.

### What are the benefits of using ND Care and Support?

Access to a team of care workers who are fully vetted and have a valid DBS  
Access to specialist care workers who are fully trained and competent in their roles.  
Full administration function for payroll and invoicing  
No employer responsibilities

To find out more please call the office nearest your home.