

Direct Payments

Giving you choice and control



www.kent.gov.uk/careandsupport

**Kent
County
Council**
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What are direct payments?

Direct payments are local council payments for people who have been assessed as needing help from adult social care, who would like to arrange and pay for their own care and support services instead of receiving them directly from the local council.

Having a direct payment gives you choice and control over how you organise, buy and manage your care and support.

How can you use direct payments

You can use direct payments for:

- personal care and assistance to help you to live in your own home
- short breaks and respite care
- support to access community, social and leisure activities
- support for carers
- employing a personal assistant
- equipment which helps you live independently.

How do I get a direct payment

You will have a needs assessment and financial assessment to determine if you are eligible for care and support, if you are eligible for care and support you will be given a personal budget. Your care and support plan will evidence how you intend to spend your direct payment.

Depending on your financial assessment you may be required to contribute towards your care and support, with Kent County Council contributing to the balance of the personal budget.

How is the direct payment paid to me

You can have the payment on a Kent Card, which is like a bank payment card, the direct payment will be paid onto the card, you manage this money and use it to buy your support.

You can also have the direct payment sent to a bank account which you will manage this money and use it to buy your support. You will need to keep records and receipts to show how you have spent your direct payment.



Find out more

If you need any help or further information on how to obtain a direct payment, please contact the Direct Payments Team
03000 413600

Or visit our website:

www.kent.gov.uk/careandsupport