



WHAT CAN I SPEND MY PERSONAL BUDGET ON?

Guidance for Individuals



It is very hard to give a full list of what your Personal Budget can be spent on. **Everything must be decided on an individual basis.**

You must be able to show that it meets the outcomes and needs identified in your support plan, be able to show how it will keep you healthy, safe and well, and be of a reasonable cost and a proportionate amount of your Personal Budgets.

What Personal Budgets cannot be spent on:

- X** Anything which cannot be shown to meet eligible needs.
- X** Anything that does not improve your life.
- X** Anything that puts you at risk of financial or physical abuse.
- X** The cost of any activity or service is high and cannot be justified in relation to your overall resource allocation.
- X** Employing immediate family members living in the same house. Immediate family members are your parent, parent-in-law, aunt, uncle, grandparent, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, or daughter, brother, sister or the spouse or partner of any of these

people. This will only be agreed in exceptional circumstances. At the moment a senior officer of the Council makes this decision, not your Care manager.

- X If you need personal care you cannot use support agencies that are not registered as a domiciliary care agency with the Care Quality Commission.
- X Services that are provided by the National Health Service (NHS).
- X Money cannot be spent on any type of illegal activity.
- X Household Bills, clothing, or any other cost that are not related to your support needs.

Some examples of how funding can be spent

Support to help stay independent at home:

- ✓ Employing support workers or personal assistants and materials to facilitate that employment (e.g. provision of a fax machine, stationary, and lunch costs).
- ✓ Employing family members who do not live with you.
- ✓ Buying equipment which will help reduce your longer term support needs or reduces risk e.g. talking microwaves, communications aids, fall sensors, accessible computer equipment to facilitate online shopping.

- ✓ Buying services from an agency or organisation.
- ✓ Paying expenses for unpaid helpers.

Different ways of doing things during the day:

- ✓ Support to attend further education, like a computer or typing course.
- ✓ Help with accessing activities such as swimming, gyms, and libraries.
- ✓ Support to access religious places.
- ✓ Supporting participation in voluntary work in the community.
- ✓ Purchasing a season ticket for a Personal Assistant or friend to support you to go to games.

One off activities to achieve your aim or that provides respite for carers:

- ✓ Help with going on holiday with friends and family rather than Care Home respite care.
- ✓ Attending one off sporting events, concerts.
- ✓ Pay for support go on day trips out of Leicester such as trips on the train to Nottingham or other cities.

- ✓ Funding for driving lessons if it is going to improve your independence and increase your chances of obtaining work. (Consideration maybe given to the amount of DLA Mobility you are receiving)

If you have any doubt about whether an activity or service can be paid for through Personal Budgets contact your Care Manager or Support Broker.

Your support plan and the way you spend your funding will be regularly reviewed, this is to ensure it is meeting the outcomes set.