

## How to apply for Direct Payments

People in contact with mental health services should ask their care co-ordinator or social worker about Direct Payments.

If you have not had an assessment but feel you may be eligible for a service, or you have been assessed as needing a service and would like more information on Direct Payments, please contact your local social care services office:-

**Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council**, Direct Payments, Room 218, Innovation Centre, 1 Evolution Park, Haslingden Road, Blackburn BB1 2FD

Tel: 01254 584599 Email: [directpayments@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:directpayments@blackburn.gov.uk)

**Blackpool Council**, Direct Payments, Adult Social Care and Housing, Blackpool Centre for Independent Living, 259 Whitegate Drive, Blackpool FY3 9JL.

Tel: 01253 476869/477477(enquiries) Email: [dpteam@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:dpteam@blackpool.gov.uk)

**Lancashire County Council** – Tel: 0845 0537779 [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk)

Local offices:-

44 Union Street, **Accrington** BB5 1PL Tel: 01254 398731

Brindle Road, **Bamber Bridge**, Preston PR5 6RP Tel: 01772 904650

Chaddesley House, Manchester Road, **Burnley** BB11 1HW Tel: 01282 425961

Peter House, Peter Street, **Chorley** PR7 2RP Tel: 01257 516000

Calder House, Highfield Road, **Chorley** PR7 1PH Tel: 01257 231585

JDO, off Pimlico Road, **Clitheroe** BB7 2BL Tel: 01200 425146

2a Market Place, **Colne** BB8 0HY Tel: 01282 866706

29 Station Road, **Kirkham** PR4 2HB Tel: 01772 685318

White Cross, South Road, **Lancaster** LA1 4XQ Tel: 01524 66246

5/5 Balfour Court, Leyland, **Preston** PR5 2TD Tel: 01772 904600

Estates Office, Hastings Place, **Lytham St Annes** FY8 5LZ Tel: 01253 738111

Unit 6 Northgate, White Lund I.Est. **Morecambe** LA3 3PA Tel: 01524 512000

7/11 Carr Road, **Nelson** BB9 7JS Tel: 01282 470500

JDO, Greetby Buildings, Derby Street, **Ormskirk** L39 2BP Tel: 01695 585800

Bhailok Court, Pole Street, **Preston** PR1 1DX Tel: 01772 533689

155 Greenbank Street, **Preston** PR1 7JS Tel: 01772 538700

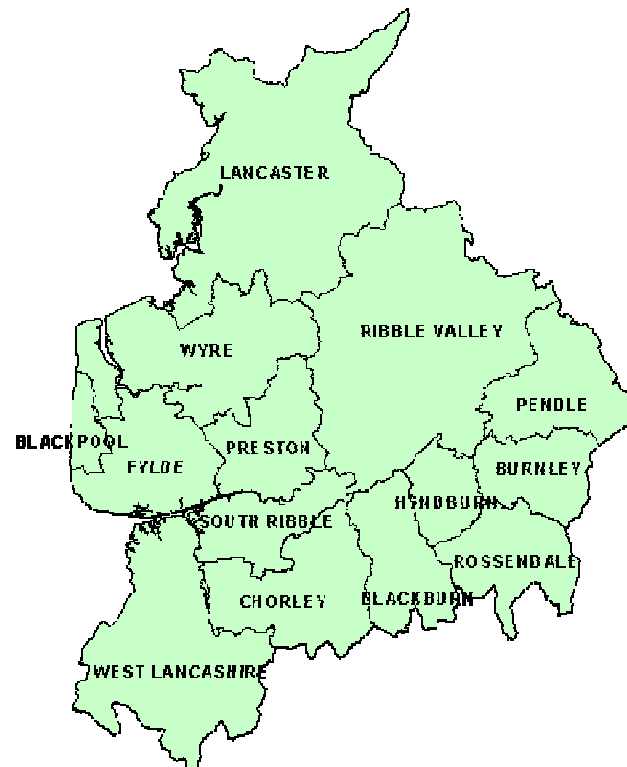
4 Blackburn Road, **Rishton**, Blackburn BB1 4BS Tel: 01254 887124

Oakenhead, Haslingden Old Road, **Rawtenstall** BB4 8RR Tel: 01706 211221

Library Building, Southway, **Skelmersdale**, WN8 6NL Tel: 01695 651200

Four Lane Ends, Fleetwood Rd.South, **Thornton** FY5 5EB Tel: 01253 866130

## Direct Payments Information for Lancashire



For information on Direct Payments in other languages, 'easy to read' format, large print, Braille or audio tape, please contact Lancashire County Council on 01772 534313.

**The Lancashire Mental Health and Social Care Partnership Board**

Made up of representation from Local Authorities, NHS Trusts, the Third Sector and Service Users and Carers



'Working together to improve mental health'

Tel: 01254 282229 – [www.lancashirementalhealth.co.uk](http://www.lancashirementalhealth.co.uk)

### Disclaimer

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# FEEDBACK

Produced by **Service User and Carer** representative members to the

**Lancashire Mental Health and Social Care Partnership Board**

## Mental Health

# Direct Payments

## Information for Service Users Carers and Families

## For Lancashire



## What are Direct Payments?



A Direct Payment is a cash payment made to an individual as an alternative to having support arranged for them.

It allows people to control their own arrangements to meet their needs, assist independent living, aid recovery and to improve quality of life.

## Who can have Direct Payments?

Most people who are eligible for Adult Social Care Services in need of support can choose to have Direct Payments, these include:-

- **Mental health service users**
- **Carers** (of adults age 16 and over)
- People with physical and/or sensory impairments, learning disability, long-term illness and people who are frail.
- Children (for which the parent/guardian of may receive payment)

## What can Direct Payments be used for?

Direct payments can be used to pay for care and support from someone you employ, such as a **Personal Assistant** (PA) or to pay for a bill from a service provider. Examples include:-

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| ➤ Practical support   | ➤ Social support |
| ➤ Leisure activities  | ➤ Domestic help  |
| ➤ Using transport     | ➤ Education      |
| ➤ Therapeutic support | ➤ Respite        |

## What can't Direct Payments be used for?

It is not possible to use Direct Payments to pay for some services including; long term residential care, health care, psychotherapy, nursing or administration of medication.

Further information can be obtained from [Lancashire Social Care Services](#), local contact details are given on the back of this leaflet.

## How can Direct Payments help?

### John – Service User

*“Using Direct Payments has made things much better than before. Now I can choose who I want to help me. I can do all sorts of other things that I couldn't do before, up to a point. You need to ask, it gets better as it goes along.”*

### Angela – Carer

*“Direct Payments have given me my life back. It helps to relieve some of the pressures in my role as a full time carer. It gives me the opportunity to have time to myself and helps to improve the quality of life for both my son and I.”*

### Sarah – Service User

Sarah lives with her parents who care for her 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Sarah uses Direct Payments to employ her sister as her 'Personal Assistant'. She comes to stay with her for the weekend once in every 8 weeks, giving Sarah's parents a break.

## Will Direct Payments affect my benefits?

Direct Payments are not connected to any social security benefits. Direct Payments are not counted as income for the purpose of social security, nor are they included in assessment for tax.

## Advice and support



**Lancashire Centre for Independent Living** (Peer Support Services) is funded by Lancashire County Council to offer information and advice on Direct Payments - Tel: 01772 250300

## Advocacy services

**Advocacy Services** represent and support people to communicate with health care, social services or other statutory services.

- **Advocacy West Lancashire**  
Tel: 01695 598485 or 737757
- **Blackpool Advocacy**  
Tel: 01253 405959  
Website: [www.blackpooladvocacy.co.uk](http://www.blackpooladvocacy.co.uk)
- **Central Advocacy** (Preston)  
Tel: 01772 524469  
Website: [www.prestonadvocacy.org.uk](http://www.prestonadvocacy.org.uk)
- **East Lancashire Advocacy**  
Tel: 01254 301030  
Website: [www.elas.org.uk](http://www.elas.org.uk)
- **North Lancs Advocacy**  
Tel: 01524 841845  
Website: [www.lancasteradvocacy.org](http://www.lancasteradvocacy.org)
- **N-Compass** (Fylde and Wyre)  
Tel: 01253 362140

