



## Independent Living Services

**Your Direct Payment Support  
Provider for Brighton & Hove**

## Choice Empowerment Flexibility Control

**For those of you still new to PeoplePlus, our Independent Living Service has been working across the UK for over 12 years supporting Direct Payment users and we are now the second largest provider in the UK supporting over 10000 customers. We already deliver a Direct Payment service in East Sussex where we support over 1000 customers.**

**"DIRECT PAYMENTS HAVE  
CHANGED MY LIFE, I CAN  
NOW DO THINGS I HAD  
ONLY EVER DREAMED OF"**

**"PEOPLEPLUS HELPED  
FIND ME A PA. I NOW  
LOVE TO GO THE CINEMA  
AND WATCH MY LOCAL  
FOOTY TEAM"**



# What are Direct payments?

Direct Payments are local council payments available to anyone who has been assessed as needing support from social services. The following people are eligible:

- Older people who need community care services
- Disabled people aged 16 and over
- People living with mental health problems
- People with learning disabilities
- Carers, in place of carers services
- Families with disabled children
- Disabled parents for childrens services
- An appointed suitable person for those individuals who lack the capacity to consent

Direct Payments should be discussed with you by your social worker when your personal outcomes are assessed. If you have not had your personal outcomes assessed you can ask for an assessment from your local social services department.

## What can Direct Payments be used for?

The money must be used to meet the needs for which social services have agreed you should have support. This may include employing your own support staff, buying services from private care agencies or for paying one off or intermittent services.





## PeoplePlus Direct Payment Service

Our Direct Payment service helps you to manage your payments and offers support with your needs and responsibilities as an employer:

- Have a dedicated advisor to help you set up and manage your direct payments
- Helping to recruit a Personal Assistant (PA's)
- Providing employment advice
- Producing draft employment contracts
- Liaising with agencies
- Devise budget plans
- Payroll service
- Manage accounts
- Responding to queries and problems
- Coordinate peer support groups in the area
- Keep you updated with regular newsletters

## What are Managed Accounts?

We offer Managed Account services to our Direct Payments recipients, this means you do not need to set up or manage a separate bank account.

Managed Accounts allows the local authority to pay your Direct Payment fund to PeoplePlus where we can make online payments to your PA, HMRC, Insurance company and care agency on your behalf.

# Help you recruit a PA!

Our recruitment service acts as a bridge of support to help you find a suitable PA. We manage a register of people who are looking for work as a PA, known as our PA pool.

We distribute a monthly newsletter to our PA pool which lists all of our clients vacancies. The interested applicant will then contact us to inform us of their preferred vacancy.

We can also help you to recruit with the job centre and other vacancy platforms of your choice.

We can help you with interviewing techniques and supply you with template interviewing questions.

As the employer you will be responsible for choosing your PA not PeoplePlus.

The law also allows you to recruit a family member or friend, if you feel that this is the best option, then an advisor will register them with HMRC.

To find out more about how you can access direct payments, speak to a social worker or to know how to contact your local authority for an assessment then please get in touch with us below.

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