



**Your Life
Your Choice**
care and support designed with you



Direct Payments

Transition

When the child/young person reaches the age of 14:

A social worker from the 14-25 Young People and Adulthood Service, will usually be allocated to work with you and your child/young person to ensure the transition into Adults services is as smooth as possible. We will need to complete an audit of your Direct Payments account to recover any Children's funding from the account. Any unused hours cannot be carried forward unless agreed by a social worker from Children's services. As all surplus funds will be returned following the audit, an additional 4 weeks payment will be provided, to remain in the account as a working balance.

When the child/young person reaches the age of 18:

There will be some changes necessary, but the Direct Payments Team will support you with these changes. The allocated social worker from the 14-25 Young People and Adulthood Service will also support you through transition and will inform the Direct Payments Team if there are to be changes in the agreed Direct Payments amounts/services.

The Financial Assessment team will contact you to discuss the young person's finances and calculate if any contribution will now be due towards the agreed care and support services. At this stage you can decide if you wish to continue with Direct Payments. Where the assessed contribution is greater than the cost of the agreed services, the Direct Payments would come to an end.

If Direct Payments continue, a new Direct Payments Agreement will need to be completed and the young person may need to provide a signature. The Direct Payments Team will discuss this with you, along with any necessary changes in how the Direct Payments is currently being used.

If you employ someone using your Direct Payments, there may need to be a change to the terms and conditions of their contract. The Direct Payments Team will support you with this and provide you with the necessary amendment forms. For any employment law advice, you should call the advice line connected to your insurance;

- Peninsula (Fish Insurance) – Tel: 0844 8922 772
- MSL (Premier Insurance) – Tel: 0161 6032 167

When the young person leaves the 14-25 Young People and Adulthood Service:

On moving to an Adults services team, an audit of the Direct Payments account is required to recover any funds to the 14-25 Young People and Adulthood service. Any unused hours cannot be carried forward unless this is agreed by a social worker from the 14-25 Young People and Adulthood service.

For more information about Direct Payments, visit our website:

www.durham.gov.uk/directpayments

Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format:

Email: directpayment@durham.gov.uk Telephone: 0300 268 200