



Individual Service Funds



What is an Individual Service Fund?



If you are eligible for support from the council you will have an assessment of your needs. The council decide how much your support may cost.



This is called your Personal Budget.



There are 3 different ways you get your Personal Budget.



1. You might be happy to manage your money by yourself.



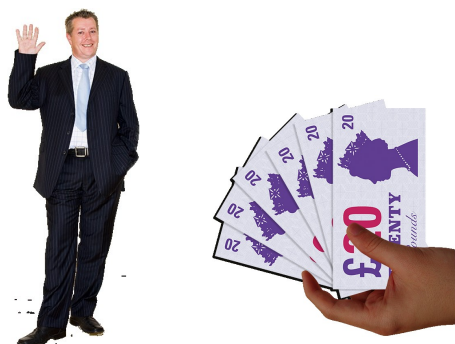
You can choose to have your Personal Budget as a Direct Payment. The money will be paid into a bank account in your name. You can buy the support you want.



2. Sometimes this is too hard and you might want help to manage your money.



The council can look after your money and use it to buy support for you.



3. You can choose to have an Individual Service Fund. You choose a provider (not the council) to look after your money. They use it to buy support for you.

Why would I want an Individual Service Fund?



With an Individual Service Fund, you get to choose your service provider and have more of a say over how your support money is spent.



You get more choice of providers with an Individual Service Fund than you would if you wanted the council to look after your money.



You do not have the responsibility of looking after the money yourself.

Will I have to pay anything towards my care?



The council will do a financial assessment with you. This will look at how much personal money you have and if you need to pay a contribution towards your care and support.

Who can help me with an Individual Service Fund?



Your chosen provider could be an organisation who helps with care and support in your own home or the family home.



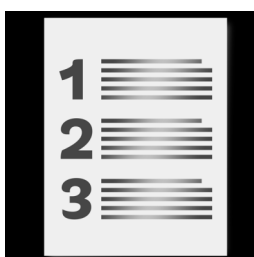
The provider you choose to hold your Individual Service Fund will help you design your care and support plan.



Your care and support plan is about what your life outcomes are and the support you need to achieve them.



With an Individual Service Fund you and your provider decide together what support you want to buy.



The council has a list of providers who can hold Individual Service Funds in Dorset.



Some providers will ask you to pay them to help you with your Individual Service Fund.



Some providers will not need you to pay them to help you with your Individual Service Fund.



If a provider wants you to pay them to help with your Individual Service Fund, they will tell you how much it will cost before you decide.



Planning your services



You will be able to talk to your provider about your care and support plan. They can help you choose what support will meet your needs.



Your provider can tell you how much money you have spent on services and how much you have left.



When you and your provider have made your care and support plan, your Care Manager at the council will check it.



They will check if your care and support plan has the right amount of support for you and will meet your needs.

What happens next?



When your care and support plan has been agreed, your provider will start setting up services for you.



You can buy services from your chosen provider and buy additional support from other providers.



You could decide to buy

- Assistive technology
- A place at a day opportunity
- A club membership
- And much more



You can tell your provider what you think when your services have started and let them know if there is anything you want to change.

You can ask for a review at any time.



You will also meet with your Care Manager at the council every year.



Your care manager at the council will talk to you to see if your care plan is still right for you and if anything needs to change.



If it has been agreed that you can afford to pay something, you will pay your contribution to your provider. They will sort this out with you.

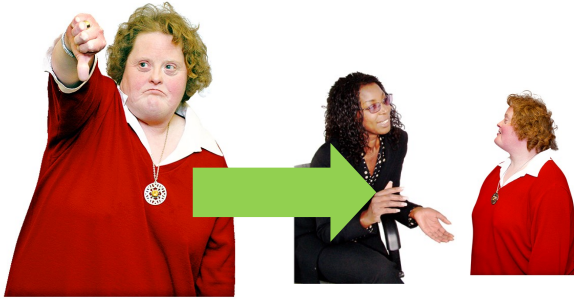


If you do not pay your contribution, you might not be able to carry on with your Individual Service Fund.

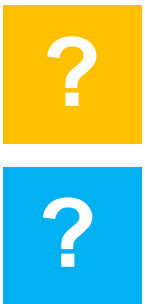
What if I am not happy with my Individual Service Fund?



You can tell your provider you are not happy so they can try to fix the problem.



You can tell your Care Manager at the council if you think your provider is not listening to you and you are still not happy.



You can change your provider if you are not happy.



Your Care Manager at the council can help you to do this.