

Personalisation of Adult Care Adult Social Services and Housing



What is Personalisation?



Personalisation is a way of getting more choice and control over your life.

You start by deciding what kind of support you need.

You get more choice about how the money you get from the Council will be spent to support you, because you know best what you need.



You get information and support to help you decide what should happen.

What is a Personal Budget?

A Personal Budget is a sum of money that is available to let you live an independent and fulfilling life.

It is made up of money from the Council and some money of your own.

You must be entitled to a service from the Council to have a personal budget.

If you have a Personal Budget you will know right from the start how much money you will have available to plan your support.

A Personal Budget lets you plan your own support with as much or as little help as you need. You are the best person to know your needs and how you would like them to be met.



Family, friends or your Care Manager can help you with your Personal Budget.

You can keep the services you already have if you want or you can choose new ones to meet your needs.

How will Personal Budgets work?

There are seven steps:

1. Working out the budget

- This is done by a Resource Allocation System or "RAS". An easy questionnaire helps to work out what your needs are and gives you an idea of how much money you could have. You will have help with this.



2. Making your support plan

- A Support Plan is about you and what is important to you. It shows how you want to use your budget, what support you need and how you will stay safe and well.
- You can make your plan yourself or with your family, a friend or your Care Manager.



3. Getting your plan agreed

- Your Support Plan has to be agreed by us before your Personal Budget can be used.
- We will check that your plan will meet your needs now and in the future.



4. Organising your money

You can:

- Ask us to manage your budget and pay for the goods and services you have chosen.
- Have a Payment into a bank account set up for your Personal Budget. You can get help with this.
- Or can do a bit of both.





5. **Organising your support**

You may

- Want to organise all your support yourself
- Want us to do this for you
- Do both.



6. **Living your life**

- This is when you put your plan into action.



7. **Review**

- To ensure you are OK, the Council has to regularly check how your plan is working.

What is happening in North Somerset?

Personal Budgets are coming in gradually. Some people already have a budget and we are now asking people who get services from:

- Adult Disability Teams
- The Community Team for People with Learning Disabilities
- The Community Mental Health Team for Older People

whether they would like a personal budget.

We will check that what we are doing is working well.

The government is expecting that, Personal Budgets will be used for most adults who have a social care service by April 2011.



If you want to know more please contact: **Care Connect**
on **01275 888 801**

Lines are open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday.