

Information about Non Residential Services for Self-funders Adult Social Services and Housing



What is a self-funder?

You may be referred to as a self-funder if you meet the full costs of your social care without any support from us.

This term generally refers to people paying for their residential or nursing care home fees. However, this can also include other services such as home care services.

You will be a self-funder if you have savings/assets of more than £23,250. (Certain assets and savings can be disregarded- for further details please contact the Finance Department on 01275 888341).

We can only provide financial support with your social care costs if

- You have been assessed as being in need of social care services, and
- You have been financially assessed as unable to pay the full cost of your care.

Some people choose to be self-funders because they prefer not to be financially assessed. In this case, if you have been assessed as eligible for services, we can help to arrange the care services. Further information can be found in our Care Navigation Services fact sheet.

What help can a self-funder receive?

There are several ways we can help you,

1. You are entitled to an assessment of your needs regardless of how much money you have. This service is free of charge and would provide you with the information you need to decide what kind of care would suit your needs. This could include Home Care services, housing advice along with many other community services that would enable you to stay independent in your own home. Further information can be found in our Care Navigation Services fact sheet.
2. An assessment of your needs would also assist you with advice about what to do when your savings fall below the Councils current threshold of £23,250. It is important to be aware that you may then be entitled to some financial assistance from us towards your social care costs.
3. We could assist you with finding care providers to meet your care needs. We can also provide advice and guidance in finding a suitable care home, including ensuring that you have all the financial entitlements to assist towards your care home fees. You can also receive support to deal with any comments or concerns you may have with your care providers.



4. You could request a free Welfare Benefits check to ensure that you are receiving the full benefits and state pension you are entitled to. Someone from our Financial Assessment and Benefits (FAB) Team would provide a home visit and can assist with completing the necessary forms required. For example, you may be entitled to Attendance Allowance, which is available to you regardless of how much money or income you have. This Allowance is awarded solely on your care needs and is non-means tested and tax-free.
5. We could also advise about other possible sources of funding. For example 'Continuing Health Care Funding' may be available if you have significant and complex health needs. This funding comes from the National Health Service. This requires an assessment from your local 'Primary Care Trust' (details below) and the decision to award this payment is theirs. It is particularly important to be aware of this funding if you are in a nursing home, have a terminal illness or if you have complex medical needs.

What do I do now?

If you feel you need Community Services or advice contact:

North Somerset Care Connect

Tel: 01275 888 801
Fax: 01275 888 407
Minicom: 01275 888 805

Email: care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk

Lines are open 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday

North Somerset Community Partnership

Tel: 01275 546 818
Fax: 01275 546 769
Email: pals@nsomerset-pct.nhs.uk

www.northsomerset.nhs.uk

This publication is available in Braille or audio formats on request. Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English. Please contact 01275 882 181.

For information on all council services, visit the web site at: www.n-somerset.gov.uk

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