

Dev's Story



I am a young man with a learning disability who lives at home with my family; I have had a personal budget for a year. Before receiving my personal budget I did not go out, did not take part in any activities and felt very low. I lacked self-confidence and self esteem, and my family life was being affected.

My sister manages my personal budget which she says has changed the whole family's lives in a positive way: 'Dev now goes out horse riding, swimming and for regular walks. He also goes out with support from agency workers and this has helped improve his confidence and enabled him to do things without his family. In turn this has helped the family unit to be sustained and improved things for the family as well as Dev.'

In future I would like to continue to do the activities I now enjoy, but also plan to try and experience new things. My support plan plans to use some of my personal budget to buy a computer for me to use at home to help my communication. 'His personal budget has given Dev the opportunity to do many different things and to explore new opportunities,' my sister says. 'It has enabled him to socialise more and be more involved in the community. It has helped him to go out where before he was not leaving his home. It has been a fantastic move for him and has improved his quality of life immensely.'