

# Section 2

## Shared assessment



## Section 2: Shared assessment



Don't forget ... you need to check this information for yourself.

### What is the shared assessment?

The shared assessment is a questionnaire that identifies your support needs. There are a series of questions you will need to answer that look at all aspects of your life. For each question, there is a list of possible answers. You will need to choose the answer that best describes your needs.

The assessment will help the Council to make a fair and open decision about who gets what money to meet their support needs.

### Who can help you complete the shared assessment?

The questionnaire can be completed alone or with the help of someone else, such as a carer or broker. Your care manager will also answer the questionnaire and then you will need to come to an agreement as to which box to tick.

### How does your shared assessment feed into your Resource Allocation?

The answers on the questionnaire are weighted. This means that the answers to some questions affect the amount of money you are entitled to more than others. Each answer is given points: the higher the need, the more points are allocated. The points for each of your answers are added together to give you a total score. Each score is worth a set amount of money. This score equates to an amount of money which is called your Indicative Allocation.

You will be able to choose from the following types of personal budget:

- A Direct Payment personal budget whereby the money is paid directly into your bank account and you then organise and purchase the goods and services on their support plan. You will pay an assessed contribution to your budget.
- A Managed Account personal budget whereby the key worker organises in-house or existing council commissioned services for you. The council then pays for the services through existing contracts. The council collects an assessed contribution from you.

## Maximising your resources

There are a number of different funding streams that you may be able to use in addition to your Resource Allocation. Here is a list of some of the funding streams you might be able to receive.

**Please note: if you are in receipt of Continuing Care, you will not be able to receive a personal budget.**

<b>Access to Work</b>	Helps you if your health or disability affects the way you do your job. It gives you and the person you work for advice and support with extra costs which may arise because of your needs.
<b>Carer's Allowance</b>	Paid to carers who look after people who are sick or disabled and in receipt of certain benefits.
<b>Carer's Grant</b>	Designed to enable carers to take a break from caring, and to help provide carers' services "to support them in their caring role".
<b>Community Care</b>	Money that is allocated to councils by central government in order to fund meeting local eligible need in relation to social care provision.
<b>Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)</b>	Money that pays for adaptations to help you remain living in your own home.
<b>Independent Living Fund (ILF)</b>	Money that is paid to people with severe disabilities to help them to live independently in the community.
<b>Integrated Community Equipment Services (ICES)</b>	Equipment to help people remain at home.

Please contact your care manager for more information.

To help maximise your resources, you may be entitled to money from elsewhere. To ensure you are receiving all the money you are entitled to here is a list of organisations that can help you.

<b>Age Concern</b>	 01983 525282  <a href="http://www.aciw.org.uk">www.aciw.org.uk</a>
<b>Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)</b>	 0845 1202959  <a href="http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk">www.citizensadvice.org.uk</a>

<b>Job Centre Plus</b>	 01983 273000  <a href="http://www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk">www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk</a> or <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>
<b>Mencap</b>	 01983 529461  <a href="http://www.mencap.org.uk">www.mencap.org.uk</a>
<b>The Law Centre</b>	 01983 524715  <a href="http://www.lawcentres.org.uk">www.lawcentres.org.uk</a>
<b>Visiting Finance Officers</b>	<p>Council officers who will do a home visit to look at your finances with you.</p>  01983 823340

There are also **benefits** that you may be able to apply for. Here is a list of some of them.

<b>Attendance Allowance</b>	 0800 882200  <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>
<b>Disability Living Allowance (DLA)</b>	 0800 882200  <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>
<b>Housing Benefit</b>	 01983 823950  <a href="http://www.iwight.com">www.iwight.com</a>
<b>Employment and Support Allowance</b>	 01983 273000  <a href="http://www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk">www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk</a> or <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>
<b>Job Seekers Allowance</b>	 01983 273000  <a href="http://www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk">www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk</a> or <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>

<b>Mobility Allowance (mobility component of DLA)</b>	 0800 882200  <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>
<b>Severe Disability Premium</b>	 0800 882200  <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk">www.direct.gov.uk</a>