

What are personal health budgets?

- A personal health budget is an amount of money to support a person's identified health and wellbeing needs, planned and agreed between the person and their local NHS team.
- At the centre of the personal health budget is a care and support plan. This sets out the agreed health and wellbeing outcomes that the patient wants to achieve and how the budget will be spent to help the individual meet these outcomes and keep healthy and safe.
- The aim of a personal health budget is to give individuals more choice and control over the money spent on meeting their health and wellbeing needs.
- Personal health budgets offer additional opportunities for health care professionals and people to work in partnership, making shared decisions and actively co-designing services and support. This partnership combines the professional's vital clinical expertise and knowledge with the person's expertise in their condition and their ideas for how their needs can best be met.
- Personal health budgets offer the potential for greater integration of health and social care and partnership working between the NHS and local authorities.
- Personal health budgets support the vision of a more personalised, patient-focused NHS.
- Please see our personal health budget patient leaflet that provides more information. A separate leaflet will be available for children and young people.

Who can have a personal health budget?

From 1 April 2014, people who are eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare funding will have the **right to ask** for a personal health budget.

From 1 October 2014 people who are eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare will have the **right to have** a personal health budget but further guidance is awaited.

From 1 April 2015, personal health budgets will be extended to those with long term conditions and mental health conditions who could benefit. We are currently awaiting further guidance on the specific groups.

What is NHS Continuing Healthcare funding?

NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) is the name given to a package of care which is funded solely by the NHS for individuals who have ongoing healthcare needs (these needs are usually very complex). Care can be provided in any setting including the individual's home.

Bristol personal health budget implementation will be focusing on CHC eligible individuals receiving care at home. Pilot programmes are on-going into the use of personal health budgets in nursing and residential care settings.

How do service users apply for a personal health budget?

Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is finalising its policy and processes. Once finalised, CHC eligible individuals and parents of children and young people with Continuing Care funding will be contacted directly and provided with further information about how to apply for a personal health budget.

What progress has Bristol made?

We are still in the early stages but we are making good progress:

- We have a member of staff dedicated to leading the introduction of personal health budgets in Bristol.
- We have piloted a personal health budget with a service user. This pilot has given us valuable experience that we have used when developing our approach to personal health budgets.
- We have attended regional events and workshops with speakers from pilot sites and the Department of Health to learn from their experiences.
- We have developed a patient personal health budget leaflet which is available from our website www.bristolccg.nhs.uk/your-health-local-services
- We will be looking at joint procuring a Brokerage Support Service with Bristol City Council to assist individuals with choosing and commissioning their own care.
- We are currently drafting a policy, operational guide and strategy. Once this is finalised we will make it available on the our website.

How do I get more information?

Adults (18 and over)

Please contact Jessica Harris or Helen Butterworth at Bristol CCG. We will be happy to answer your questions.

Jessica Harris, CHC Programme Support Manager (PHB Lead)

Tel: 0117 900 2283

email: jessica.harris@bristolccg.nhs.uk

Helen Butterworth, Finance Officer

Tel: 0117 900 2331

email: helen.butterworth@bristolccg.nhs.uk

Children and Young People (under 18)

Please contact Jane Guvenir who will be happy to answer your questions

Jane Guvenir, Continuing Health Care Nurse Manager for Children and Young People

Tel: 0117 903 7077 or 0117 903 7747

email: jane.guvenir@bristol.gov.uk

Information about the national personal health budget pilot can be found at:

www.personalhealthbudgets.england.nhs.uk

The website also has stories from individuals and professionals about their experience of personal health budgets.