

An easy read guide to  
**Direct Payments**  
Giving you the choice and control

**Write or draw your ideas here**



# What are Direct Payments?



**Direct Payments** are a way of getting the support you need to do everyday things.

You can get **Direct Payments** instead of a service from your Trust.



You can choose who you want to support you.



You get money so you can pay for the support.

**Write or draw your ideas here**

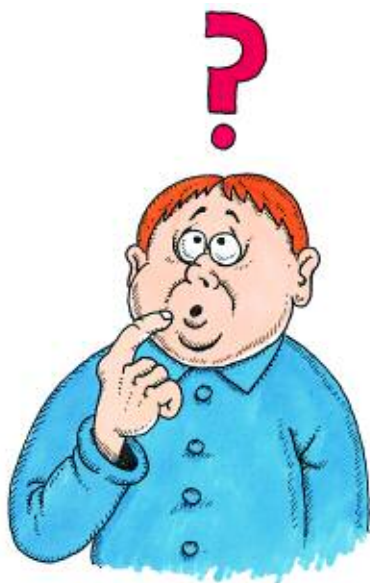
A large white rectangular area intended for writing or drawing ideas, occupying most of the page.

# Who can get Direct Payments?



You can get **Direct Payments** if:

- you are over 16
- you are already getting a service from your Trust
- or the Trust agrees you need a service.



It is up to you to decide if you want Direct Payments.

You can get help to look after your Direct Payments.

**Write or draw your ideas here**

A large, empty white rectangular area intended for students to write or draw their ideas. It occupies the central portion of the page, bounded by a thin black line.

# What can I use Direct Payments for?

You can use **Direct Payments** to pay for the support you need to:



- live at home



- pass your day.



- get out and about

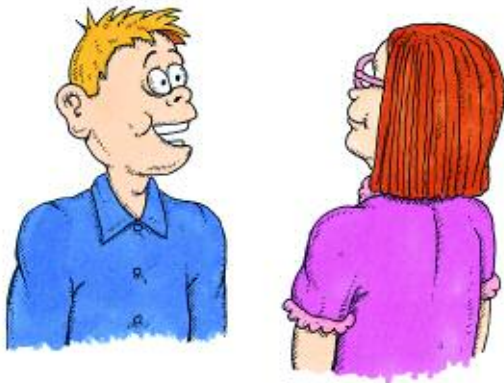
**Direct Payments** will help you do the things that are important to you.

Write or draw your ideas here





# How can I get Direct Payments?



Ask your social worker or the person in the Trust who normally helps you.



If you don't already get a service, someone from the Trust will discuss with you what support you need.

He or she will explain how **Direct Payments** work and what you should do next.



You could also ask someone at the Centre for Independent Living for advice.

Write or draw your ideas here

A large white rectangular area intended for writing or drawing ideas, occupying most of the page.

# How can Direct Payments help me?



You can be more independent and you can take more responsibility for yourself.



You have control in your life.

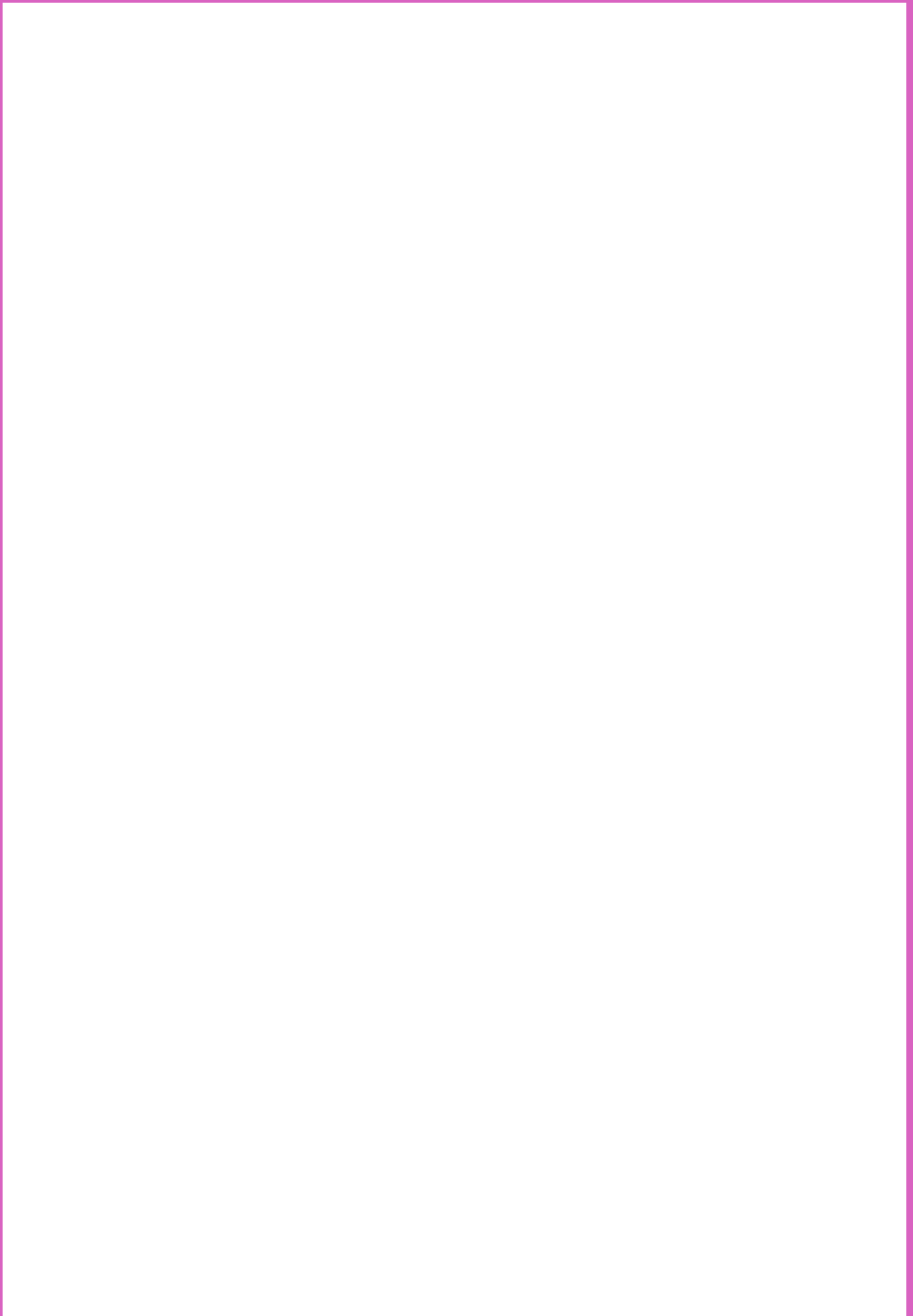
You are making your own decisions. You are in charge.

You have more choice. You decide who gives you the support you need.



Most people can manage Direct Payments with the right help.

Write or draw your ideas here



# Where do I get more information?



To find out more about Direct Payments ask your social worker or the person in the Trust who normally helps you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_

You could ask a group in your area to help you, for example,



Centre for Independent Living  
61 Duncairn Gardens  
Belfast  
BT15 2GB



Tel: 028 9087 5001



Web: [www.cilbelfast.org](http://www.cilbelfast.org)

**Write or draw your ideas here**

A large, empty white rectangular area intended for writing or drawing ideas, framed by a dark red border.

We would like to thank:

Centre for Independent Living  
who provided the text for  
this guide and all other  
organisations involved  
in its development.

Produced by:  
Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety,  
Castle Buildings, Belfast BT4 3SQ

Telephone (028) 9052 2910

Textphone: (028) 9052 7668.

[www.dhsspsni.gov.uk](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

March 2007

Ref: 200/2005