Help to manage your money

Advice and information – Appointeeship and power of attorney

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The purpose of this factsheet is to give you advice and information about getting help to manage your money and paying for your care services.

How can I get help to manage my finances?

If you have to rely on somebody to manage your financial affairs, this can be formally arranged by giving someone lasting power of attorney, deputyship or appointeeship. These terms are explained in more detail below. If someone else does manage your finances and you are receiving care services from Cheshire West and Chester Council, you may also want them to take responsibility for paying for your care. You should tell Cheshire West and Chester Council if someone else is managing your finances and what sort of an arrangement you have.

What is a lasting power of attorney?

Usually, a lasting power of attorney is created for periods of time in cases where you are unable to act for yourself. Lasting power of attorney automatically comes into effect if you lose your mental capacity.

Who can be my attorney?

Anybody who has mental capacity can be your attorney but you should choose someone you can trust. You should be aware that a lasting power of attorney is a powerful document and could allow whoever you have chosen unrestricted access to your finances. In some cases an attorney is able to make decisions about your health and welfare.

How do I make a lasting power of attorney?

A lasting power of attorney must be made on the proper form which can be downloaded from Gov.uk website, or from a solicitor or law stationers. You can get more information from your solicitor or the Office of the Public Guardian.

What happens if I cannot manage my affairs and I do not have lasting power of attorney?

If you have not appointed someone to act for you with a lasting power of attorney and you lose your mental capacity, an application has to be made to the court of protection for your representative to be appointed as a deputy.

What happens if I only receive state benefit income?

If you have benefit income, but no capital or property to administer, an appropriate representative could apply to the Department of Work and Pensions to become an appointee for your benefits, and assist you in managing your financial affairs.

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Factsheets available from Chester West and Chester Corporate Assessment Centre are:

- No. 1 Paying for Non-residential Care
- No. 2 Direct Payments
- No. 3 Help to Manage Your Money
- No. 4 Paying for Short Term (Respite) Care
- No. 5 Paying for Residential and Nursing Care
- No. 6 Long Term Care - Owning a Property
- No. 7 Deferred Payment Agreements
- No. 8 Long Term Care - Making Your Own Arrangements
- No. 9 How Capital is Treated
- No. 10 Paying for Social Care Support in Residential College

Information is also available on the Chester West and Chester Council website: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Contact us

The Gateway Team is the first point of contact to talk about help for you, a relative or a friend or for information about social care for older people, adults and children.

You can phone the Gateway Team between 8:30am - 5pm Monday to Thursday (Friday 4:30pm) on 0300 123 7034

In an emergency you can contact the out of hours Emergency Duty Team on 01244 977277

Local area contact details and opening times

Winsford
Wyvern House
The Drumber
Winsford
CW7 1AU
Tel: 0300 123 8123
Monday to Thursday 8:30am - 5pm
Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Ellesmere Port
Civic Way
Ellesmere Port
CH65 0BE
Tel: 0300 123 8123
Monday to Thursday 8:30am - 5pm
Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Cheshire West and Chester Council
General public enquiries
Tel: 0300 123 8123
Web: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille and Large Print formats. If you would like a copy in any of these formats or in another language, please email us at **equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk**
We are also able to provide a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter to support customers with accessing Council services.

Tel: 0300 123 8 123
email: equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
web: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk