

PERSONAL WHEELCHAIR BUDGET INFORMATION SHEET

A personal wheelchair budget (PWB) is a scheme offered to provide a wider choice for those needing to use a wheelchair.

At your assessment you will discuss your health and wellbeing needs and the outcomes that you want to achieve with your wheelchair with a clinician. This will be recorded on your support plan.

If you are eligible for NHS provision you will be prescribed an NHS wheelchair; the cost of provision to the NHS is your notional personal wheelchair budget. There will then be a choice of how to use your PWB.

PERSONAL WHEELCHAIR BUDGET OPTIONS AT A GLANCE

Notional Personal Wheelchair Budget

	Description	Contribution from you	Repair and maintenance
NHS Provision	NHS provision	None	Free of charge via the approved repair service
Alternative Wheelchair	Upgrade to an alternative model within the NHS range	The difference between NHS provision and the model you choose	Free of charge via the approved repair service
Top Up	Add on features to your NHS wheelchair	Cost of the features that you choose	You will need to pay for maintaining the additional features and their replacement
Third Party Personal Wheelchair Budget	You can use your PWB towards a wheelchair purchase via an independent provider outside of the NHS. It needs to be in the same category as the one you would be entitled to from the NHS	The difference between the PWB value and the wheelchair you choose	A contribution will be included in the final budget calculation; as the owner of a private wheelchair you will be responsible for repairs

ELIGIBILITY

At your assessment you will be advised which budgets you are eligible for. With a rapidly changing medical condition it may be more appropriate to stay with the notional PWB options in order for the NHS to support your needs as they change.

NOTIONAL PWB: ALTERNATIVE WHEELCHAIR

You can choose to upgrade your wheelchair within the Wheelchair Service range. The NHS will contribute an amount which is the same value as your prescribed wheelchair. The difference in cost (including VAT at 20%) is needed before ordering. The wheelchair remains the property of the NHS who will provide free repairs and maintenance.

NOTIONAL PWB: TOP UP FOR ADDITIONAL FEATURES

You can choose and pay to have additional features added to the wheelchair prescribed by the Wheelchair Service. Payment (including VAT at 20%) is needed before ordering. The wheelchair remains the property of the NHS who will provide free repairs and maintenance **but you will be responsible for the repair and replacement of the additional features via the approved repair service.**

THIRD PARTY PWB

- You will be given an amount which is the same value as your prescribed NHS wheelchair together with a one off payment to cover repair and maintenance costs that you will be responsible for arranging.
- The wheelchair you choose will have to meet your mobility and postural needs and be in the same category as the chair prescribed, e.g. manual or powered.
- You will need to choose a wheelchair from a supplier who accepts the PWB scheme.
- The Wheelchair Service needs to approve your choice before purchase. A PWB cannot be issued retrospectively i.e. you cannot buy a wheelchair and then ask for your PWB.
- If pressure relieving cushions, postural/special seating is provided by the NHS, your chosen wheelchair must be compatible with the accessories provided.

LONGEVITY OF EQUIPMENT

A typical adult wheelchair lasts a minimum of 5 years; for children changes are needed more often as they grow, usually 2-3 years. This may also be the case with some clients whose clinical needs change rapidly.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Opening times: Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm excluding bank holiday