

review: seeing how it's working

Even if everything is going well, one of the Leeds Social Care team will contact you once a year to talk about how your support plan is working, and whether anything needs to change. This is called a review ...

A review is about:

- checking whether your needs and circumstances have changed;
- checking whether your plan is helping you achieve the aims and goals you agreed – and if not, how this can be fixed;
- talking about any changes you feel would make your plan work better;
- making sure you're keeping healthy and safe; and
- checking your budget is still being used for the purpose for which it was provided.

What sort of things should I think about before the review?

This review is about you and your life, so try to take some time beforehand to ask yourself how things are going. Here are some questions to think about:

- Have I been able to change the things I wasn't happy with?
- Have I been able to do the things I wanted to do? Do I feel in control of my life?
- What kind of support am I using? How is it working out?
- What do I want to do next?

Can I involve anyone else in the review?

Yes, you can ask other people to help you prepare for the review, and help you think about how you would answer the kinds of questions listed above. For example, you could involve family members, friends, your carer, an advocate or a support provider.

What happens after the review?

After the review, you and your care manager should have a good idea of what's going well and what isn't going so well in your plan. You will also have agreed whether or not you want to make any changes, and if so, what you need to do.

So the next step is to start making these changes so your plan works the way you want it to!

- Find out more in the factsheets '*What is a support plan?*' and '*Keeping safe and managing risks*' – information on how to get copies is overleaf.

Turn over
for further
information



Find out more about personal budgets and directing your own support

personal budgets and employing PAs

- **Fact sheets** – find the rest of the series at www.leeds.gov.uk/personal_budgets
- **Booklet: *Your Personal Budget*** – more detail about the different steps to getting a personal budget.
- **Short film: *Personal Budgets in Leeds*** – people in Leeds talk about using personal budgets to live more independently. Watch it online at www.leeds.gov.uk/personal_budgets.
- **Peer support** – talk to people who already use a personal budget! Contact Free to Live, the Personal Budgets Peer Support Network, on 0113 214 3594 or visit their website at www.freetoliveleeds.org.
- **Employing personal assistants (PAs)** – if you're going to be recruiting and employing your own PAs, ask for a copy of the *Leeds Guide to Becoming an Employer*. If you're using an agency, see 'Choosing services and support', below.
- **Further information** – visit the council's website www.leeds.gov.uk/personal_budgets for loads more information including frequently asked questions, a glossary of terms, and more.

No web access?
No problem. You can get copies of all booklets, fact sheets and other information from your care manager, or by phoning Customer Services on 0113 222 4401.

choosing services and support

- Visit www.leedsdirectory.org to find local services online. Search by service, postcode or the area where you live. Or phone the Directory Helpline on 0113 391 8333 for advice or a paper copy.
- **Booklet: *Guide to Buying Services and Support*** – tips on making the most of your budget when dealing with suppliers.

Collect the factsheet series!

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