NHS Hull CCG Personal Health Budget Local Offer

Introduction

The “Next steps on the NHS five year forward view” (NHS England 2017) represents the business plans for the NHS in England until 2018/2019. The next steps document confirms the plans to support disabled people and people with complex health needs to benefit from a personal health budget, with expansions plans to provide more than 40,000 in 2018/19.

A Personal Health Budget (PHB) is an amount of money to support an Individual’s health and wellbeing needs, as agreed between the individual and the lead professional involved in the care of the Service User.

Personal budgets can be managed in one of four ways:
- Direct payments – where individuals receive the funds into a dedicated bank account to contract, purchase and manage services themselves. The designated bank account is to be separate from any personal bank account and used solely for the purpose of receiving agreed personal budget funds and making required payments associated with the support plan.
- Notional budget – an arrangement whereby the local authority, NHS, school or college holds the funds and commissions the support specified in the plan.
- Third party arrangements – where funds (direct payments) are paid to and managed by an individual or organisation on behalf of the parent, young person or adult for who the personal budget is identified for.
- A combination of the above.

NHS Hull CCG view PHB’s as a tool to support personalised care. As such, NHS Hull CCG will continue to ensure there is a continued focus on personalised care planning, which could result in a PHB being offered. It is important to provide clarity that a direct payment PHB will not be available to all Service Users, and that PHB’s are targeted at those with complex health needs, which will be a small part of the population. There is no new money to support PHB’s and NHS Hull CCG will be required to develop alternative contracting arrangements to release the resources required to offer PHB’s.

NHS Hull CCG is committed to ensure that anyone expressing an interest in a PHB is entitled to a personalised conversation, with their healthcare professional, to explore the thinking behind the request. The focus shall be on improving outcomes and whether needs to be met differently, resulting in a personalised care plan.

Personal budgets are also available to meet eligible social care needs, administered by Hull City Council. Integrated personal budgets are funded from a combination of sources including NHS Hull CCG, Hull Social Services and where applicable, Hull Local Education Authority.

What are the benefits of a Personal Health Budget?

PHB’s have been shown to help people to improve their health and wellbeing and achieve the outcomes important to them. They are just one way of providing more personalised care and support. PHB’s have been found to be of particular benefit for people with complex needs to reduce the need to go into hospital and maintain independence.
Who might be able to have a Personal Health Budget?

From October 2014 people who are assessed as or are already eligible for NHS CHC as defined by the National Framework for Continuing Health Care and NHS-funded Nursing Care November 2012 (revised) and families of children eligible for Continuing Care (CC) as defined by the National Framework for Children and Young People’s Continuing Care will have a “right to have” a personal health budget. In the case of children this refers to the element of their care package that would normally be provided by the NHS once they become CC eligible and not the elements of their package provided by social care or education.

NHS Hull CCG has plans to develop an offer for PHB’s and integrated personal budgets during 2018/19 as follows:

- Adults in receipt of NHS CHC;
- Children in receipt of NHS CC;
- Adults in receipt of joint funded packages of care (including Learning Disabilities and Mental Health cohorts);
- Individuals in receipt of section 117 aftercare funding;
- Children in receipt of a personal Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Personal Wheelchair Budgets

As part of plans for the wider expansion of personal health budgets nationally NHS Hull CCG has developed a local personal wheelchair budget offer to replace the current wheelchair voucher system. A personal wheelchair budget is a resource available to increase people’s choice and control of wheelchair provision, either within NHS commissioned services or outside of NHS commissioned services.

Personal Wheelchair Budgets can be managed in one of three ways:

- Notional Personal Wheelchair Budget (standard NHS Provision). This enables the wheelchair user to have a basic wheelchair which will meet their identified needs.
- Notional Personal Wheelchair Budget with contribution. This option allows the wheelchair user or another agency, such as a Social Care, education or a voluntary/charitable organisation, to contribute to the PWB to either have a higher specification NHS wheelchair or add additional features to meet their wider health and wellbeing needs.
- Third Party Personal Wheelchair Budget. In discussion with the wheelchair therapist, if it is clinically appropriate, the wheelchair user can choose to use their PWB as a contribution to buying a wheelchair from an independent retailer outside of the NHS.

Option 2 and Option 3 PWB payments will last for 5 years for adults and 3 years for children other than in exceptional circumstances.

What are the benefits of a Personal Wheelchair Budget?

The aim of personal wheelchair budgets is to provide:

- A more robust framework for person-centred care and support planning;
- More control to people, their carers and families over the wheelchair provided;
- Greater clarity for wheelchair users about choices available including funding and what that should include;
- An opportunity to explore how the provision of wheelchairs can be joined with other care and support, as part of a holistic person-centred care and support plan and integrated personal budgets that combine health and social care funding.

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Who might be able to have a Personal Wheelchair Budget?

Anyone who is registered with a Hull GP and is eligible for the provision of a permanent loan wheelchair, with the exception of individuals who have a rapidly changing or deteriorating condition, will be eligible for a Personal Wheelchair Budget. All new referrals must be from a Health Care Professional or re-referrals will be accepted from existing wheelchair users.

How can I find out more about Personal Health Budgets?

NHS Hull CCG is working with Hull City Council to identify our approach to personalisation and the delivery of PHBs. The CCG also works with local NHS Trusts to help identify people who may benefit from a PHB. If you are interesting about finding out more about taking up a PHB, talk to your health and care professional.

Right to ask

NHS Hull CCG recognise that Individuals have a right to ask for a PHB, however capacity, resources and skills to meet all requests is likely to result in the need to prioritise and take a phased approach to the roll out of PHBs in the future. NHS Hull CCG will consider all requests for PHBs on an individual basis and if the CCG are unable to provide a PHB, the Service User will be sign posted to commissioned services for a personalised conversation to understand:

- The reason for the request;
- The outcomes which the Service User wishes to achieve;
- Whether there are other ways the outcomes can be met within existing resources;
- Whether the service can become more responsive.

Appeals

Where an individual does not agree with NHS Hull CCG’s judgement, they will have access to NHS Hull CCG’s complaints procedures.

Patient Relations can provide confidential advice and support to help you resolve queries and concerns about your NHS care. Patient Relations can also provide general information about NHS services.

Email: HullCCG.Pals@nhs.net
Phone: 01482 335409
Address: Patient Relations, Freepost Plus RTGL-RGEB-JABG, NHS HULL Clinical Commissioning Group, 2nd Floor, Wilberforce Court, Alfred Gelder Street, Hull, HU1 1UY

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