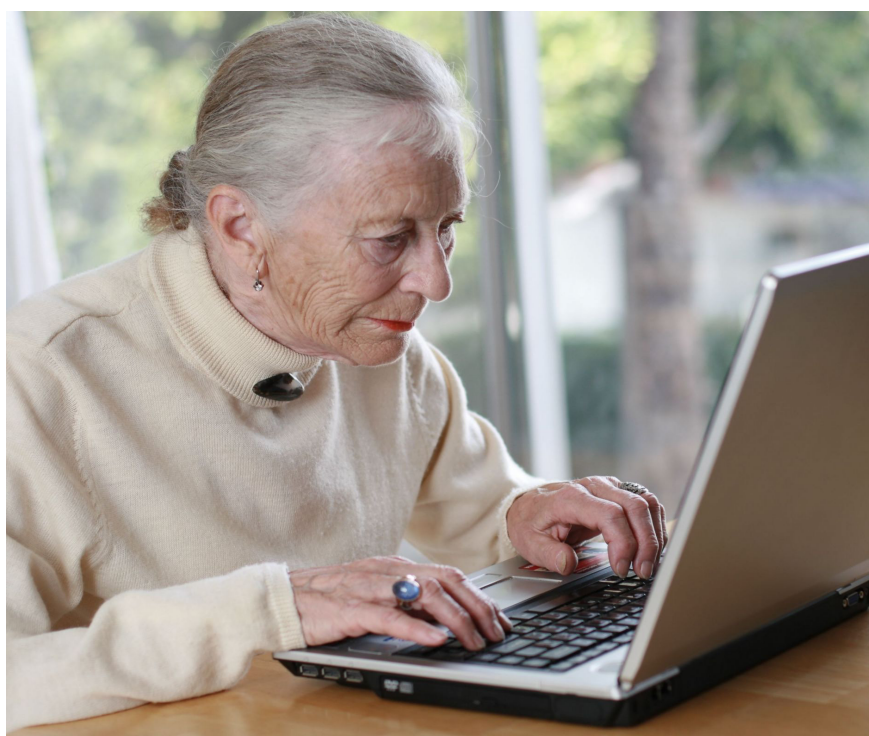


Self-directed support

What if I disagree with the resource allocation?

When you've done your self-assessment form and the local authority has given you an 'indicative' budget (an amount that may still change), you make a support plan.

This fact sheet tells you what you can do if you don't think you agree with the amount in your resource allocation.



To get more help
contact In Control.
Tel: 01564 821 650
Email In Control
help@in-control.org.uk

Find more fact sheets at:
www.in-control.org.uk/factsheets



LOTTERY FUNDED



This fact sheet was produced by In Control and Mencap as part of In Control and Me, a lottery funded project.
www.in-control.org.uk/icandme

The basic facts

Local authorities use a **resource allocation system** to decide how much money you can have in a personal budget.

Your authority will tell you what the 'indicative amount' is. This is based on your assessment form. 'Indicative amount' means an indication of the money you may get, but it may change.

You can use this indicative amount to help you make your support plan.

When you've done your support plan, you may find you don't agree with your resource allocation. You should speak to your care manager or social worker and show them your support plan.

You should be able to work things out with them, negotiate and perhaps make a compromise.

More information about what to do if you don't agree with the resource allocation

Local authorities use a resource allocation system as a straightforward way of telling people how much is fair and reasonable as their personal budget.

The Resource Allocation System should be:

- Reasonable – A personal budget should be enough for the person to meet the needs that they identify in their support plan.
- Transparent – The resource allocation system rules should be clear and easy to understand.
- Sustainable – A local authority has to provide money to everyone who needs support. They must set the amounts at a level that will not break the bank.

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The resource allocation is an indicative amount of money. The local authority believes a person with 'these' needs requires 'this' amount of money for their support. This may be more or less than someone actually needs.

Make a support plan

The best way to find out if your resource allocation is fair and reasonable is to make a support plan. The support plan should explain how you or the person you are helping is going to keep healthy, safe and well. The plan shows how the personal budget will be spent and if there is a gap between the indicative amount and what you actually need.

Talk to someone

If you don't agree that your resource allocation is fair and reasonable you should speak to your social worker or care manager. Talk them through your support plan and show why you think you need a different amount. There is room to negotiate and amend things. It may be good to use the help of an advocate.

If you can't work out things with the care manager, you could talk to someone else – perhaps a Team Manager.

You can call or email In Control. We will try to help.

Telephone: 01564 821 650

Email: help@in-control.org.uk

You can complain

If you still cannot agree about the amount, you can use the local authority's complaints procedures. Ask your social worker or care manager for a complaints form. Or ask for a form at your local social work office or any council office.

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There is a lot of information about self-directed support on In Control's website:
www.in-control.org.uk

Free to download from
www.in-control.org.uk/entitlementslibrary

Example self-assessment questionnaires – look for:

0091_Self_AssessQuestion_1.doc

0092_SAQ_1_Scoresheet.doc

0093_Self_Assess_Quest_2.doc

0094_SAQ_2_Scoresheet.doc

Free to download or you can buy a copy from:

In Control Support Centre, Carillon House, Chapel Lane,
Wythall, B47 6JX or www.in-control.org.uk/shop:

How to be in control DVD
www.in-control.org.uk/dvd

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About the In Control and Me project

A three-year project to produce accessible information for everyone who wants to direct their own support, funded by the National Lottery through the BIG Lottery Fund. You can find out more at www.mencap.org.uk/incontrol or www.in-control.org.uk/icandme