

Changes to Direct Payments



You have received this information because you use Direct Payments to arrange your care and support.



The way Fife Health and Social Care Partnership pays Direct Payments is changing.



You may wish to ask a family member, advocate, social worker, care provider or friend to explain this information to you.



The money that is paid into your Direct Payment account to pay for your care and support will be paid onto a pre-paid card instead.



The card is set up to allow you to pay for support that has been agreed with your assessor in your support plan.



You **do not** need a bank account to have a **pre-paid card**.



You cannot get into debt using your **pre-paid card**. You can only spend the money on care and support. The card won't work if you have used up your budget.



You won't need to write cheques anymore as your card can be set up to pay people directly.



You will no longer have to send copies of your bank statements and receipts. The Contracts Team at Fife Council will be able to log in to a website to see your statement.



You can use your **pre-paid card** to set up regular payments to your chosen Care Provider.



If you have been given an overnight short break budget you can use your **pre-paid card** to pay for your breaks.



You can also use your **pre-paid card** to pay wages to your Personal Assistant.



You will shortly receive a letter providing more details.



You will be asked to provide evidence of your identity.

We will let you know how we will collect this.



You will receive a letter to let you know when you can start to use your **pre-paid card** as well as log in details so that you can track your Direct Payment spending on a website.



The Scottish Personal Assistants Support Network (SPAEN) and SDS Options (Fife) have been asked to help people who will be using the new cards. The contact details are on our main newsletter.