



Disability Related Expenditure (DRE)

What is disability related expenditure (DRE)?

Disability related expenditure is money that you spend on items and services that help you manage or cope with a disability or a long-term health condition. It is money that we may recognise as an 'outgoing' when we do a financial assessment to find out how much you can afford to pay towards your care.

Thinking about what would be disability related expenditure

It can be difficult to think about disability related expenditure and what costs relate to your disability and what costs relate to day-to-day life. Try to think about what is different between what you have to spend compared to a relative, friend or neighbour who does not have your disability or long-term health condition.

Disability related expenditure costs usually fall into one of these two categories:

- **Specialised items and services:** you may use things that are made especially to help with your disability, such as wheelchairs and care support. These items may have additional costs, like repair and insurance.
- **Increased use of non-specialised items and services:** you may have to use things more because of your disability, such as transport or heating.

When we consider your disability related expenditure, we will:

- Look at the information you give us including the receipts and any other evidence. We cannot take these costs into account without evidence.
- Check to see if the costs you have given us are to do with your care needs that are in your support plan- a support plan details how your care needs are met
- Check to see if any income you receive already covers these costs. For example, a community alarm system paid within housing benefit, support to a carer from a Carers Budget to pay for cleaning or gardening.
- Consider whether the costs you have asked us to consider are already available from the NHS.

What Next?

It is important we see receipts or other evidence of the extra costs you have because you are disabled. This will enable us to work out any extra allowances you can get. A Community Finance Officer will help you with deciding what receipts to give us. We can offer new customers the opportunity to give us the receipts and other evidence later on. We will give you a first assessment and let you know the outcome of the assessment in writing. If you then provide receipts and evidence later, we will work out how much you will have to pay towards your care again. Unfortunately, we are unable to backdate this amount to the first assessment.

More Information or if you are not happy

If you are not happy about how your financial assessment has been worked out, you can ask us to look at it again. For more information about this or any queries about the financial charging assessment process, please call your local office as detailed below.

Where to find out more

Contact Adult Social Care

Allerdale - West Cumbria House, Jubilee Road, Lillyhall, Workington CA14 4HB

T: 0300 303 3589 E:workingtonssd@cumbria.gov.uk

Barrow-in-Furness - 4th Floor, Craven House, Michaelson Road, Barrow in Furness LA14 1FD

T: 0300 303 2704 F: 01229 404054 E: barrowssd@cumbria.gov.uk

Carlisle - 3rd Floor, Cumbria House, 117 Botchergate, Carlisle CA1 1RD

T: 0300 303 3249 F: 01228 226655 E:carlisslessd@cumbria.gov.uk

Copeland - Blencathra House, Tangier Street, Whitehaven CA28 7UW

T: 0300 303 3589 F: 01946 506433 E: whitehavenssd@cumbria.gov.uk

Eden - Adult Social Care, PO Box 224, Penrith CA11 1BP

T: 0300 303 3249 F: 01768 812262 E: penrithssd@cumbria.gov.uk

South Lakes - County Offices, Kendal, LA9 4RQ

T: 0300 303 2704 F: 01539 713354 E: kendalssd@cumbria.gov.uk

If you require this document in another format (eg CD, audio cassette, Braille or large type) or in another language, please telephone **01228 227113**

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় পেতে চান তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে 01228 227113 নম্বরে টেলিফোন করুন।

如果您希望通过母语了解此信息，请致电 01228 227113

Jeigu norétumėte gauti šią informaciją savo kalba, skambinkite telefonu 01228 227113

W celu uzyskania informacji w Państwa języku proszę zatelefonować pod numer 01228 227113

Se quiser aceder a esta informação na sua língua, telefone para o 01228 227113

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde görmek istiyorsanız lütfen 01228 227113 numaralı telefonu arayınız

Disability Related Expenditure (DRE)

DRE Item	Examples	Evidence
Community Alarm Systems	Such as a pendant alarm worn around your neck to keep you safe.	Invoice or Bills from provider.
Privately purchased care	Allowable ONLY where this is part of an agreed care assessment and support plan AND the council-arranged support is reduced accordingly.	Invoices or bills from the provider/ personal assistants.
Specialist washing powders or laundry	If you have to use a special detergent and do more laundry which exceeds 4 loads per week because of incontinence or risk of infection. A fixed amount of £3.85 per week.	Details required about the number of loads of washing each week detailed in care assessment or support plan.
Specific diet/pureed food	Extra food costs specific to your impairment and not available on the NHS. Only the price difference between a specialist product and a regular item will be considered at our discretion.	Receipts or invoices and needs identified in care assessment or support plan.
Additional clothing and footwear	Such as extreme wear and tear of clothing/ footwear because of your impairment. Permitted costs up to £307 per year.	Receipts of purchases Need to be identified in care assessment or support plan.
Additional bedding	Such as incontinence but limited to a maximum of £2.46 per week if the cost is in excess of £40 per year.	Receipts of purchases. Need to be identified in the care assessment or support plan.
Heating costs	Your heating costs are higher due to your impairment and allowed if the amount is over and above the following fuel bills expected for the size of your property, as follows: Single in flat/terraced £1,587.42 Couple in flat/terraced £2,092.10 Single in semi-detached £1,686.07 Couple in semi-detached £2,220.57 Single in detached £2,053.10 Couple in detached £2,703.45	Bills from your energy provider/ bank statements for a 12 month period.
Basic gardening	Only considered where there is no other able bodied person residing in the household or not provided by family. A maximum contribution of £154 per annum.	Invoices or bills from the provider and identified in care assessment or support plan and not already provided by a Carers Budget.
Basic cleaning	Disability or condition prevents the person doing this themselves and only where there is no other able bodied person residing in the household or not provided by family. A maximum contribution up to £532 per annum.	Invoices or bills from the provider and identified in care assessment or support plan and not already provided by a Carers Budget.
Purchase and maintenance of equipment	Equipment includes hoists, powered and turning beds, scooter/wheelchair and stair lifts. For wheelchair and mobility equipment these costs will be allowed net of any DLA mobility component received.	Invoices or bills from provider (excluding any Council/NHS/DFG funding) and identified in care assessment or support plan.
Transport costs if necessitated by illness or disability (If transport is not provided by Adult Social Care or Health)	Transport costs necessitated by illness or disability Including costs of transport to day services, over and above the mobility component of DLA or PIP if in payment. Discretion will be taken not to include these costs if a suitable cheaper form of transport e.g. council provided transport to day services is available but has not been used.	Receipts or bills from provider and identified in care assessment or support plan.

DRE Item	Examples	Evidence
Specialist internet Access	Internet costs permitted due to disability or long-term condition up to a maximum of £17.40 per month.	Bill from provider or bank statement and identified in a care assessment or support plan.
Court of Protection expenses	General administration costs in association with Court of Protection to a maximum of £650 per annum or 3.5% per annum if savings under £16k.	Invoices or bills from provider.
Chiropody	Disability or condition prevents the person doing this. We can consider the actual cost up to a maximum of £3.74 per week or £22.44 every 6 weeks.	More than one invoice or bill from provider to evidence the customer is receiving this service on a 6 weekly basis and not as a 1 off session. Care assessment must identify restricted movement.
Hair Washing	Allowable where the customer is unable to wash own hair and hair wash is not part of the care package. We will consider the actual cost up to a maximum of £7.92 per week.	At least 2 receipts for the service and identified in care assessment or support plan.
Prescription or Medical items	Incurred to relieve a medical condition and/or disability and not already paid for by NHS. To consider the actual cost up to a maximum of £2 per week.	Customers need must be confirmed by the Social Care Practitioner/ Health Professional and receipts of purchases must be provided.
Other Disability Related Expenses	Other Disability Related Expenses may be allowed with good reason and proof of costs. These will be at the discretion of the Council.	Evidence and receipts of purchase. Evidence of need within care assessment or support plan.

April 2019