

# Supporting with money

You and your relative may have lots of questions about money, especially if the person is moving out of their family home for the first time. This guide covers some of the most common areas we need to think about together.

Everyone we support has individual needs around support with money. Some people need help with finances while others may be independent. It is important that we give support to adults according to their capacity, circumstances, and needs.

If we have been asked to help your relative with their money as part of their support package, we need to discuss and agree with you what this

support will look like. When your relative moves into their own home or starts receiving support from Choice Support, we need to have clear discussions about their finances so everyone knows what support we will give.

There may be many new things that your relative has to budget for such as bills, activity costs, transport, food, and household expenses and even paying a contribution towards their own support via the local authority.

The team helping your relative move in will be happy to give you information and discuss any questions you may have. Each person has individual requirements, but we have tried to answer some common queries opposite.





## How do we agree what support with finances is required?

If needed Choice Support can assist with arrangements for finances. Support might include:

- Claiming benefits.
- Administering their bank account.
- Budgeting and saving.
- Checking and recording financial transactions.
- Learning how to be more independent with money.
- Making financial decisions using the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA).

Your relative might be receiving a specific service from us, for example help to attend work or an activity each week. We will work with you to agree what expenses need to be paid.

Our: *'Moving into a new home'* leaflet, gives more details on everyday living costs.

## Keeping things safe around finances

Helping someone with their money is a position of great trust and responsibility. We take this very seriously and make sure that our staff are well equipped to give good support with finances.

Where people need our help to manage their money, we know their money must only be used for them and spent in line with their wishes and best interests.

All of our employees are trained in safeguarding adults, which includes awareness of financial abuse and our responsibilities around this. You can read more information in our: *'Keeping people safe'* leaflet.

Your relative will have a detailed section in their support plan saying what staff do around finances. This includes how we record, monitor, check and audit any financial support given by our staff. We have a clear Finance Policy which details how to deal with concerns or discrepancies.

If you have any concerns or worries about your relative's money, speak to their support team or you can speak to your local Choice Support regional manager, our quality and safeguarding team or to your local authority safeguarding adults' team.