

Information for Carers: Financial information, support and benefits

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Information sheet E5

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This information sheet is about:

- GOV.UK
- Carers Direct
- Financial Assessments and Benefits (FAB) Team
- Citizens Advice Bureaux

There is a range of benefits, tax credits and other financial support that you may be able to receive as a carer.

GOV.UK the public services website, has detailed information for carers about money matters, covering a wide range of topics including Carers Allowance, Carers Credits for the state pension, and Council Tax reduction.

<https://www.gov.uk/search?q=carers>

Carers Direct, part of the NHS Choices website, also has detailed information for carers about money matters.

<http://www.nhs.uk/CarersDirect/moneyandlegal/Pages/Moneyandlegalhome.aspx>

Their free, confidential information and advice line for carers is also available 8am to 9pm Monday to Friday, 11am to 4pm at weekends. Calls are free from UK landlines or you can request a free call back. Phone Carers Direct on 0808 802 0202.

Citizens Advice Bureaux provide free, independent advice. To find your local bureau go to <http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Although we have lots of information available to help you, we always recommend that you talk to someone completely independent about money matters, particularly if you are thinking of moving into a care home, and especially if you own a property.

There are many organisations that you can either phone or arrange to visit to talk things through.

Remember, if you get financial advice and they are recommending ways that you should invest or use your money against specific financial products, they must be regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)

Advice on paying for care

You can also get independent advice from:

- The Money Advice Service website: offers information on paying for care or the option to speak to an online advisor. You can phone them on 0300 500 5000.

- The Society of Later Life Advisers: can help you find advice on how to make financial plans for care in your old age. You can phone them on 0845 303 2909, or use the website to search for a regulated financial advisor in your area.
- Find Me Good Care: a website of the Social Care Institute for Excellence. It has advice on all aspects of planning and funding social care.
- Age UK: has a good website with advice for older people and people planning for their later years. You can also phone them on 0800 169 6565
- Carers UK: has a website resource of advice for carers. You can also phone them on 0808 808 7777

Your opportunity to feedback

We welcome your comments about the services you receive. If you would like to tell us what you think, please either:

Contact us by going to our website, www.somerset.gov.uk, or

- Speak to your social care worker
- Phone Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224, or
- Contact the Adults and Health Customer Experience Officer
Floor B2 East
County Hall
Taunton
TA1 4DY
Email: customerexperience@somerset.gov.uk

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