**Direct Payments – Quick Guide**



**What is A Direct Payment?**

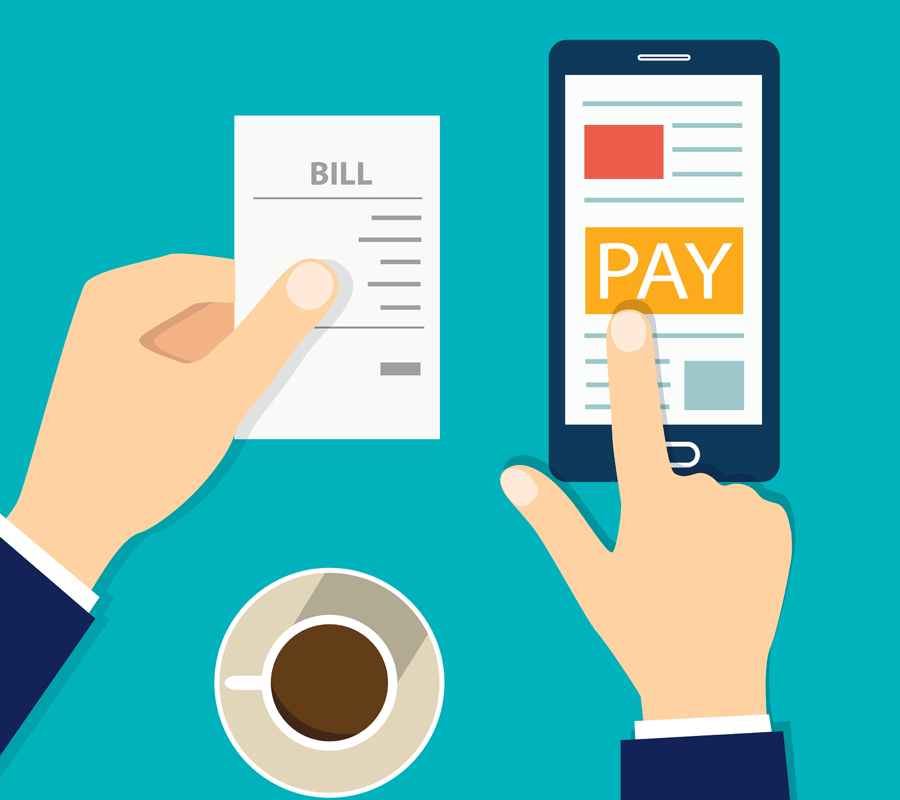
A Direct Payment (DP) is money the Local Authority (LA) gives you so you can arrange the support you need.

**Will it affect my money?**

DPs **are not** benefits and will not interfere with any benefits you may receive.

**Can I get DPs?**

You can get a DP if you are over 16 and eligible for support from social care. In order to find out if you are eligible you need to have a care assessment.

**What does using a DP involve?**

It will involve dealing with money and arranging your own support.

**Can I get help?**

Friends and family can help you or you can use Thurrock’s DP and payroll service (run by Purple Zest) that your Care Practitioner can refer you to.

**How can I use my DP?**

You can use your DP to buy services that are legal and meet your outcomes. These are outcomes are identified in your care assessment.

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**Finding out more………………………………………**

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[**https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/paying-for-your-care-needs/direct-payments**](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/paying-for-your-care-needs/direct-payments)

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