

# **Draft Direct Payments Policy**

## **Proposed Standard Rates**

**Easy Read**



# Proposed Standard Rates



This is an **easy read** explanation of the proposed standard rates for the draft Direct Payment Policy.

The Council will work out your personal budget using standard unit rates.

They will consider the service you wish to use, and ensure your needs are met.

The Money will be paid into a special Direct Payment account every 4 weeks.

The Council will work out and explain if you need to contribute some money toward the cost.



The Standard Rates are:

1. Agency provider hourly rate.
2. Personal Assistant hourly rate.
3. Self-employed Personal Assistant hourly rate

If the draft policy is approved, these rates will start from April 2026.

If you already have a Direct Payment, you will only use standard rates after your next review.

Standard rates will be reviewed every year, and consider costs like:

- Changes to the average home care rate
- Changes to Minimum and Living Wage.
- Changes to Employers National Insurance Contribution



There are also variable rates for services not covered by the standard rates.

### **Proposed Standard Rates**

See the rates below – these may change following consultation or review.

**£21.48**

The hourly rate for people using agency providers is £21.48

**£15.85**

The hourly rate for people employing Personal Assistants is £15.85

**£16.76**

The hourly rate for people employing self-employed Personal Assistants is £16.76



Further information on these rates can be found in the [Draft Direct Payments Policy](#).