

Hertfordshire Direct Payment Support Service

quarterly newsletter

Welcome to the third quarterly newsletter of 2024 from the Hertfordshire Direct Payment Support Service!

We are pleased to share some important updates and valuable resources with you, including an upcoming online support drop-in session, designed to provide assistance and address any question you have regarding the management of your Direct Payments.

Within this newsletter we additionally provide information on pre-paid cards, Skills for Care's individual employer-funded training opportunities and details about Herts Connected, which is aimed at keeping Hertfordshire residents engaged and informed about news and events within the local community.

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Communications Manager

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Online support drop ins:



Tuesday 15th October 11am–12pm:

Hosted on Microsoft Teams this session is open to all Hertfordshire Direct Payment holders and representatives, providing a valuable opportunity for asking questions, collective learning and support to share information about managing direct payments.

This online support drop in will be hosted by a member of our EAG (employment advice and guidance) team who will be on hand to answer questions related to managing Direct Payments.

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As an individual employer you can apply for individual employer funding to train yourself and your personal assistants (PAs) with Skills for Care.

This funding is now open for 2024/25 applications and it can be used to cover training costs to develop your skills as an employer, direct costs of completing training/qualifications, hiring replacement support whilst your usual PA is attending training courses and travel.

How to apply

To apply for funding you'll need to complete the [application form](#) and send it to funding@skillsforcare.org.uk.

Deadline for applications

Deadline for all applications is midday **Friday 14 March 2025** and all funded training courses must be started before **Monday 31 March 2025**.

Contact Skills for Care

If you have a question about the funding or need support completing the application process please contact funding@skillsforcare.org.uk or call **0113 241 1275**.

If you are thinking about applying and want to know more you can join one of Skills for Care's Q&A sessions where they will be running through how to apply, exploring the benefits to developing yourself/your PAs and answering any questions.

- **Wednesday 16 October 2024 | 11:00 – 12:30**
- **Thursday 7 November 2024 | 13:00 – 14:30**
- **Friday 13 December 2024 | 10:30 – 12:00**

Please email funding@skillsforcare.org.uk for the joining details of these calls.

Pre-paid cards – information:



If you have questions related to your prepaid card it is advised by Hertfordshire County Council that you call the customer services team on the following phone number: **020 3633 0357**.

Agents are available from Monday to Friday (except on Bank Holidays) between 8.00am – 9.00pm.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PREPAID CARDS](#)



Staying informed with Herts Connected

Keep up to date with what's happening in your local community and have your say through Herts Connected. Whether you live or work in Hertfordshire, this service keeps you informed about news and events relevant to your area. Herts Connected is a free messaging service provided by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

You can customise your experience by choosing which organisations you'd like to hear from, including the Police and Crime Commissioner, Neighbourhood Watch, or Action Fraud. This ensures the messages you receive are tailored to your interests, not just your postcode.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HERTS CONNECTED](#)