

Adult Social Care

Self-Directed Support Team
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Trinity Road
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 selfdirectedsupport@sefton.gov.uk

Date: May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Covid-19 information for Direct Payment recipients

I am writing to you as you currently receive a Direct Payment from Sefton Council to pay for your care and support. The Covid-19 pandemic is having an impact on everyone's lives and I am particularly aware of the impact it is having for many individuals who need care and support. As you have chosen to make your own arrangements for care and support through the option of receiving a Direct Payment this must be especially challenging. I therefore wanted to make sure that you have all the information you need to help you stay safe and well supported at this time.

The government recently published new guidance about Direct Payments, and we wanted to let you know about this and where to find other information that may be of help. Details of where to access this guidance is included in the attached note that also looks to address key elements that we understand are causing concern and confusion. We have also provided you with information regarding areas where there are free education and supporting resources available for you and your Personal Assistants.

Personal Protective Equipment

We are aware that there has been a lot of media coverage about Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Government guidance on what should be worn by care workers providing personal care has recently changed and we wanted to make sure that you are aware of these changes and what you need to do to keep safe.

Covid-19 Testing

Finally, we wanted to let you know about the arrangements that have been put in place for testing people for Covid-19 so that you and your Personal Assistants are aware of how this can be accessed.

I am mindful that this is a lot of information for you to consider but I would ask that you take the time to look through all the information and ensure that you are taking all necessary steps to keep safe. If you have any concerns you should contact either the Direct Payments Team at Sefton Carers Centre (Telephone: 0151 288 6060) or Sefton

Council Contact Centre (Email: AdultSocialCare@sefton.gov.uk; Telephone 0345 140 0845).

Yours faithfully

A Nile

Alisa Nile
Deputy Head of Service