

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/145

Subject: CHC Funded Individuals with Personal Assistants/Paid Carers in a Hospital Setting

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
1. Does your ICB allow those with CHC funding/personal health budget to pay their personal assistants to continue providing personal care in hospital settings?	The ICB's approach to personal assistants (PAs) providing support to a person when admitted into hospital is set out in section 18 of our Personal Health Budgets policy, which is published online at the following link: https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/library/personal-health-budgets-policy/
2. Is your policy on this written into the DP agreement? If so, what does it say?	The scenario of carers providing support in a hospital setting is not explicitly mentioned in the Direct Payment agreement.
3. Does ICB have a protocol in place regarding Personal Assistants/paid carers assisting with complex care needs in hospital settings? What is it?	The ICB does not have an explicit protocol for this scenario, but discussion would take place between the budget holder, or responsible individual managing the budget on behalf of the CHC (Continuing Healthcare) eligible individual, and the case manager about the specific circumstances and the ways in which the PAs could safely support in a hospital setting.
4. How many times in the last 3 years has a service user had their care needs met by their usual PAs/paid carers whilst in a hospital setting?	It is not possible to supply this information within the 18 hour limit. The CHC database does not routinely collect this data, and to answer this question would require checking each CHC patient record. Therefore, the ICB has exempted the information under Section 12 (Cost compliance exceeds appropriate limit).

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 21 August 2025 and has been approved for release by Kathryn Dalby-Welsh, Deputy Director of Nursing (Funded Care) for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.