

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/022

Subject: Personal Health Budgets

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

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>1. Please could you send me details of your ICB's PHB Offer available to parents who have children that are eligible for Children's Continuing Care? This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notional Budget - 3rd Party Budget - Direct Payments 	<p>Please find the link below that details the ICBs PHB policy available on our website. Please note that the policy is currently in the process of review.</p> <p>https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/BNSSG_Personal_Health_Budgets_Policy.pdf</p>
<p>2. Can you confirm whether Clinical Oversight/Supervision of PA/carers is included in your Direct Payments PHB Offer? If yes, please could you confirm how this is achieved (i.e. via Community Nurse, Registered Nurse as part of PHB budget, centralised ICB Nurse, etc.) on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a yearly basis b) an ongoing basis (between yearly sign off/refresher training). 	<p>The configuration of a PHB package, including the level of clinical oversight required, is specific to each individual person.</p> <p>Most children and young people who are eligible for continuing care (CYPCC) in BNSSG will receive that support via the Lifetime service, commissioned by the ICB and provided by Sirona Care & Health.</p> <p>The nature of CYPCC is that it will often only be addressing certain aspects of that child or young person's health needs, which cannot be met from universal NHS services, and forms part of a multi-agency approach.</p>

	<p>Where carers are performing clinical tasks that require oversight/supervision this will form part of the care plan and be delivered as part of the PHB arrangement.</p> <p>The frequency of training is bespoke to each care package and will be outlined within the care and support plan.</p>
<p>3. In general, are there any scenarios where children are eligible for Children’s Continuing Care but do not fall into a PHB offer mentioned above? If so,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • why does this occur • what happens with these packages • what is the percentage of CCC children that fall into this ‘non-PHB’ category? 	<p>The ICB is able to support direct payment, third party and notional PHBs, and the approach is tailored to each individual CYPCC case.</p> <p>There are many reasons why a person, family, representative, or ICB may believe that a direct payment is unsuitable, and it is not possible to provide an exhaustive list. For example, this may be due to the complexity of the care tasks, or that the young person and/or family prefer a managed PHB option, or that there is a significant risk of misuse of PHB funds.</p> <p>The ICB’s approach is that all CYPCC care provision can be delivered via a form of PHB, either direct payment, third party and notional PHBs.</p>
<p>4. What pay scale/process is used for PAs / Carers employed under Direct Payment PHBs (and can you share) for NHS BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET AND SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE INTEGRATED CARE BOARD</p>	<p>The ICB’s Funded Care Team will review rates of pay for a PA/carer on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the skills of the PA/carer, complexity of tasks, difficulty in recruitment/retention of a suitable workforce etc.</p> <p>The ICB has developed a “Pay vs. Task” tool that supports the comparison of PA pay rates with the pay scales for trained staff set out under NHS Agenda for Change. The tool supports the ICB to</p>

	align the complexity of care tasks being undertaken with the rates of pay for carers that will be employed on the care package.
5. Who is responsible for ensuring training for the PAs / Carers is provided/undertaken for Direct Payment PHBs (Parents / NHS / ICB / CCN, etc).	<p>It is the responsibility of the named budget holder managing the direct payment on behalf of the CYPCC-eligible person to ensure that training for carers employed via the direct payment PHB is up to date.</p> <p>The ICB provides a named care co-ordinator for every CYPCC case who is available to support and advise parents. Where direct payment PHBs are drawing on support from a care brokerage, or management service, those organisations will also support parents to understand the training requirements and the available training options.</p>
6. Who is Lead Commissioner for the Direct Payment PHB Budgets – Local Authority or ICB (or another)?	<p>ICB Team: Senior Lead for Business and Commissioning, Chief Nursing Office Tel: 0117 900 2626 Email: bnssg.chcteam@nhs.net</p>
7. What is the current structure of your 'PHB' team (internal to ICB and those who liaise/support parents directly)?	<p>The ICB does not have a dedicated PHB team.</p> <p>Support for CYPCC is provided via the Children and Young Person's Complex Care Team.</p>

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 7 May 2025 and has been approved for release by Rosi Shepherd, Chief Nursing Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.