



## Nottingham City Direct Payment Accounts

*We are making it easier for you to access and use your Direct Payments.*

The Nottingham City Direct Payment Account will allow you to;

- reduce paperwork as you will not be required to submit regular monitoring about your care spending;
- save time as you will not need to open a separate bank account;
- have the option of banking online, paying by direct debit, standing order or by card;
- give your nominated person access to your account so that they can look after your finances for you and speak with us if needed.

You will receive an account card which has chip and pin functionality and works in the same way as any other debit card. Nottingham City Direct Payment Account holders can use their account to pay for their social care support but should not use it for anything else.

### **Who can get the Nottingham City Direct Payment Account?**

The Nottingham City Direct Payment Account is available to all adults within Nottingham City that are provided with a Direct Payment to pay for their care and support. If you are an existing Direct Payment recipient and would like to have a Nottingham City Direct Payment Account please discuss this with your Social Care Worker or by ringing the Direct Payments Team on 0115 87 63682.

### **What are the advantages of having the Nottingham City Direct Payment Account?**

In the past people receiving a Direct Payment had to open a separate bank account to pay for their support. With the Nottingham City Direct Payment Account there is no need to open a bank account or provide regular monitoring to the Council. We will make all of the arrangements for issuing your card and will assist with activating the account, and the money from your Direct Payment will be added to it.



### **How can the Account be used to pay for things?**

The Nottingham City Direct Payment Account can be used to pay for services at point of sale, by telephone or on the internet. You can pay suppliers and providers by standing order or direct debit, making it easier to make arrangements for your care and support if you are not able to get out easily. If someone helps you to look after your money we can organise for them to be named on your account so that they can access your account and speak with us over the telephone if needed.

### **How does it work?**

- Your Direct Payment will be paid into the Account; you can then use your card to pay for services.
- You can set up standing orders and direct debits.
- You can transfer your own money into the Account to make your contribution towards your care or if you want to spend more than the Council has allocated to you.
- You can take out cash at a cash machine if this is part of your support plan.
- You will need to keep hold of receipts; invoices and any other paperwork relating to spending your Direct Payment but you will only be asked to submit these occasionally.

### **Who to contact?**

- If you already have an allocated Social Care Practitioner please ask them about the Nottingham City Direct Payment Account.
- If you do not have an allocated Social Care Practitioner please contact Nottingham Health and Care Point on 0300 300 3333.
- If you have a Nottingham City Direct Payment account but have any queries or are experiencing difficulties please contact the Nottingham City Direct Payment Team on 0115 87 63682.