



## **Discharge Grant Scheme Frequently Asked Questions – Informal Carer**

### **1. What is the Discharge Grant Scheme?**

Individuals may require support on discharge to regain confidence and independence. The Discharge Grant Scheme promotes personalised care enabling the individual to be in control of how the care is delivered. The Discharge Grant may be used to pay a family member, friend, or private carer to provide the support identified. A Support Plan will be agreed prior to discharge which will identify the individual's support needs and the value of the grant.

### **2. I am taking leave from my job to do this; will this affect the way I am taxed?**

The Discharge Grant may impact the way you are taxed. You will need to notify HMRC of the additional income.

### **3. I am self-employed, do I have to declare this as income in my next tax return?**

The Discharge Grant is a form of payment therefore you will need to declare it on your next tax return.

### **4. What do I do if the person I am supporting becomes unwell?**

Everybody who is discharged home from hospital will have continued support from their GP. You will therefore need to contact their GP if they become unwell. If it is a medical emergency, then you would contact 999.

### **5. What happens if the person I am caring for begins to need more care during the period I am supporting them?**

There will be scheduled calls from CHS Healthcare to check how the care is going, if there is an identified change in their condition requiring an increase in the care agreed then an urgent referral will be made to the Local Authority. If you identify a deterioration in the health of the person you are caring for then you should contact their GP.

### **6. I am in receipt of benefits; will this be affected if I agree to provide care for my loved one?**

Any benefits that you receive may be affected by this grant, you will need to advise the Department of Work and Pensions of this additional income.

### **7. What happens at the end of the grant scheme if there is no care available to take over what I am doing?**



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The aim of the scheme is to support people to resume their normal routines and level of independence. If you feel there is a recognised need for ongoing support, this will be addressed on a case by case basis. It is anticipated that during the 4 week period assessments will have been completed and appropriate referrals made.