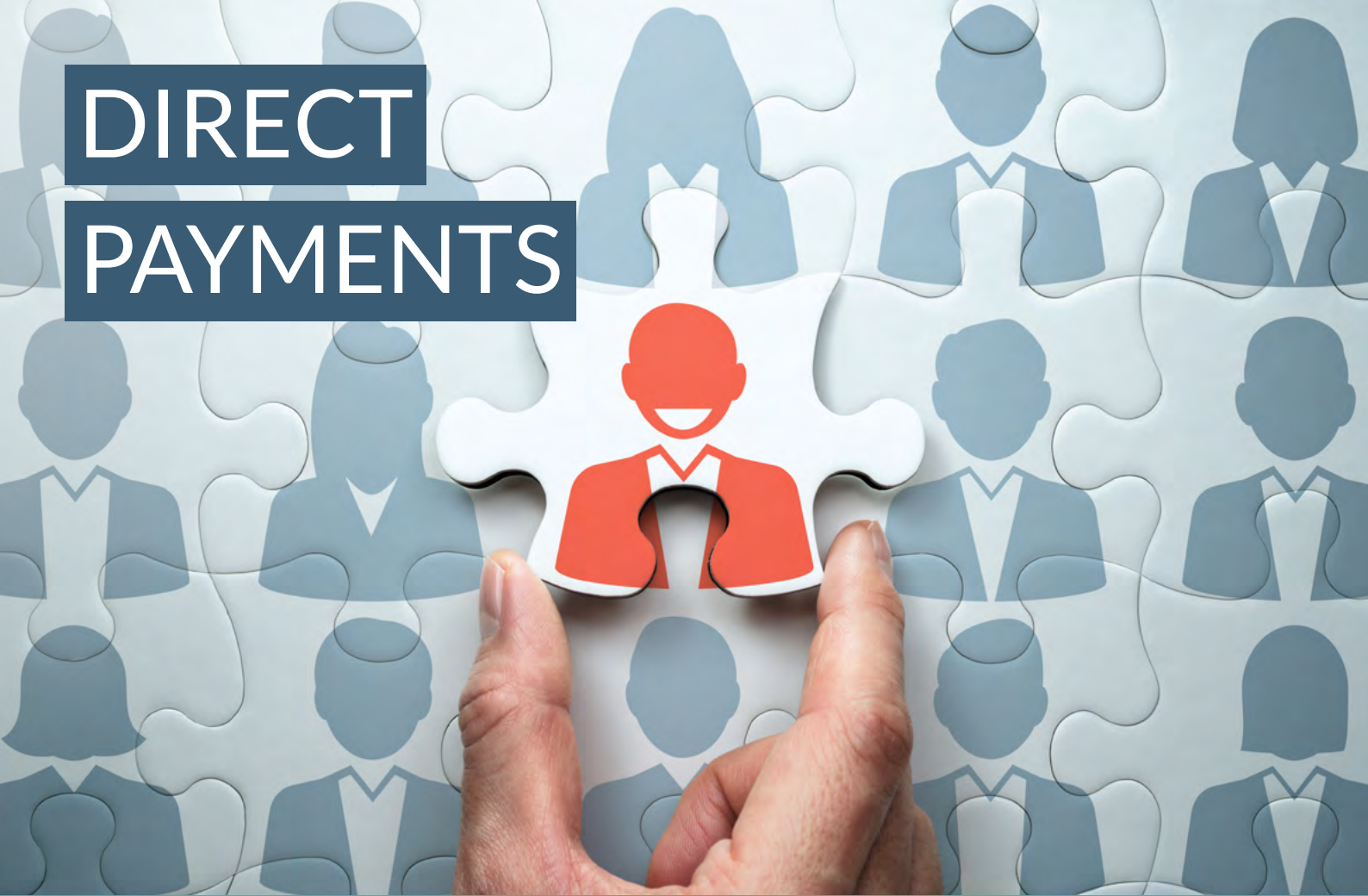


DIRECT PAYMENTS



Following a strength-based conversation (Care Act 2014 assessment), your social care worker will support you to learn about all the types of support available in your community. Where you need support that requires funding, your social care worker will agree a Personal Budget. You can choose to have all or part of your Personal Budget as a Direct Payment.

Direct Payments give you more choice, control, and flexibility over your care and support arrangements. A Direct Payment allows you to receive money to purchase **YOUR** identified care and support needs. This can include (but not limited to);

- Personal care from a Personal Assistant (known as PA), or homecare provider. The PA is someone who doesn't usually live with you and can be employed or self-employed.
- Equipment/Assistive Technology to support and promote your independence at home
- Support to connect with people or activities in the community or at home.

If you would like to have all or part of your Personal Budget as a Direct Payment, you will need an account specifically for the Direct Payment. Either you, or your financial representative can manage this account, or our Direct Payment Support Service can manage this on your behalf. Your client contribution (the amount you pay yourself) is also calculated as part of your budget (see Financial Information Leaflet).

Direct Payments provide flexibility, choice, and control over the services **YOU** require, and a service tailored to your needs. For more information about Direct Payments please discuss with your allocated social care worker or visit www.worcestershire.gov.uk.... **The Choice is Yours!**