

## **Personal health budgets – more information about what the individual employer fund can be used for.**

### **Introduction**

Skills for Care consider all applications for funding on a case-by-case basis. Not all requests for training will be able to be met from the individual employer fund. This is because the NHS is free at the point of use and the NHS has a responsibility to provide everything that is necessary to deliver your agreed care. It is not appropriate for the individual employer fund to cover costs of essential training necessary to deliver your agreed care plan.

### **How will I access training for tasks essential to the delivery of my agreed care plan?**

The NHS organisation issuing your PHB should either directly provide the training required or provide funds for training within the budget you receive, along with advice about how to access the training. If you or your personal assistant (PA) need training for an activity or task that is included in your care plan, you should contact the NHS organisation issuing your budget.

### **What are the types of tasks where training would not usually be covered by the individual employer fund?<sup>1</sup>**

The examples below are an indication of the types of tasks where the individual employer fund should not generally be used to pay for training.

- Tracheostomy care
- Bowel care
- Catheterisation
- Management of humidification system or ventilator
- Tube feeding.

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<sup>1</sup> NB this is not an exhaustive list

### **What can be funded?**

There are too many courses to list and the needs of every applicant and/or their PAs will be different. Typically training is funded where it will improve care and support skills beyond what is required to deliver the essentials of the care plan or where it will enhance how that care is managed (for example by the employer or a PA acquiring the skills necessary for a team leader role).

Your local NHS team, user-led organisation or peer group may be able to help you think about the types of training that you or your PA may find useful.

If you would like to discuss the details of a particular application in more detail please contact [funding@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:funding@skillsforcare.org.uk).