



Independent
Living Fund

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Policy Circular

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Subject: Local Authority input

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1.0 Policy

1.1 Principles for all Group 2 users and applicants

- The relevant Threshold Sum from the local authority must be maintained as Qualifying Support and Services as detailed in the ILF use of funding policy
- The ILF will not normally take over funding previously paid for by the local authority.
- Subject to agreement from their Local Authority users may spend funding from their local authority above the value of the relevant Threshold Sum in ways that suit them best and not be restricted to Qualifying Support and Services
- All ILF funding must be used for Qualifying Support and Services unless alternative arrangements have been agreed by the ILF (see 'Use of Funding' policy for further details).

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- In order for services provided by the LA to form part of the Threshold sum they must be provided directly to the user. It is acknowledged however that in some circumstances the services that are provided may also intentionally or unintentionally also provide some degree of respite to a user's unpaid carer from the support that they give

2.0 Procedure

2.1 Increases in care need or cost

Increases to awards are available only in line with the Increase Requests policy and the Short term Care policy.

2.2 Decreases in care need or cost

Users must spend their local authority funding to at least the amount of the relevant Threshold Sum on Qualifying Support Services. They are free, subject to Local Authority approval, to spend their local authority award above that amount in ways that best suit their needs.

Where a Local Authority has reduced their input to a care package ILF will not usually replace any input previously provided by a Local Authority and therefore the ILF will not consider any increase in care provision until the Local Authority input has been restored to previous levels (cash or hours).

Where a Local Authority has reduced their input into a care package the case holder should establish that any reduction does not take the LA input below the threshold sum. See threshold sum policy for more details on how to determine the relevant threshold sum.

In circumstances where a person's care arrangements alter significantly ILF will consider the changes to local authority and ILF provision on an individual basis. Any increase to the current offer is subject to the terms outlined in the Increase Requests policy.

2.3 Moving between local authorities

Where a user is moving from one Local Authority to another, the Funds will allow the new local authority to reassess their support and (subject to the outcome of the assessment) reduce the value of their input so long as it remains above the threshold sum. In this circumstance providing the reduction takes place at the first care needs assessment following the move, the ILF will be able to consider increases in need without requiring the Local Authority to reinstate the previous level of support.

2.4 Child to adult budget

In circumstances where a user moves from children's services to adult services the Fund will not expect the local authority to maintain their input at the previous level as long as the new department makes the change at the first care needs assessment following the move. The local authority will have to meet the threshold sum.

3.0 Group 1 Policy

As there is no formal requirement for the LA to be funding towards the care package of a group 1 user, where the LA has reduced their existing provision, the ILF will accept that reduction but would expect the LA to resume at the original level before ILF considers any increase in line with the Increase Requests policy, unless the LA gives good reasons for the reduction.

4.0 Source

Trustees' meeting June 2008
Trustee's meeting July 2009
Trustee's meeting 14 January 2010
Trustees' meeting February 2010
Trustees' meeting 09 June 2010
Trustees meeting March 2013
Trustees November 2013

5.0 Cross References

LA Threshold Sum policy
Best working practices guidance
Use of funding policy
Increase request policy

6.0 History Date Reviewed

March 2010
April 2010
10 June 2010
August 2011
March 2013
September 2013
November 2013
March 2104