# How We Decided Your Estimated Personal Budget

Version 9





# What is an Estimated Personal Budget?

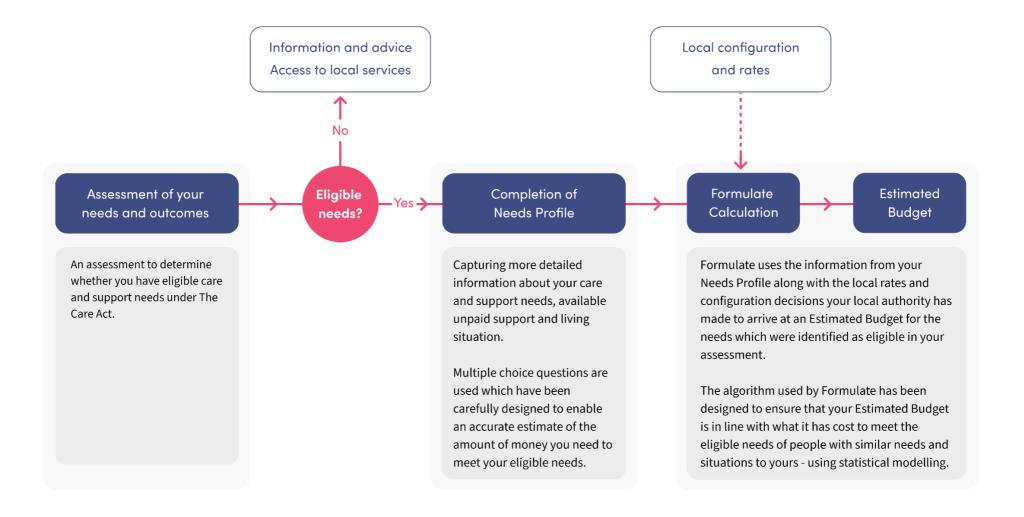
Your Estimated Personal Budget (EB) is an indication of how much money we (your council) think is needed to help you meet your eligible social care needs and outcomes. Your EB is also known as an 'indicative budget' or 'indicative allocation of money'. We use the EB as a basis to help with your support planning process.

# Who receives an Estimated Personal Budget?

We use the Government's national eligibility criteria to identify who receives an EB. For more information about the eligibility criteria, please visit: <u>http://www.scie.org.uk/care-act-</u>2014/assessment-and-eligibility/eligibility/

### How we decided your Estimated Personal Budget

The diagram below shows the process involved in estimating your budget.



Where the flowchart on the previous page refers to 'Formulate', this is the name of the Resource Allocation System (RAS) that we have chosen to use locally.

The diagram below illustrates the main stages of the Formulate calculation process:

#### **Eligible Needs:**

- Different 'weightings' applied to the answers given in your assessment.
- Weightings across all eligible areas of need are combined carefully to prevent 'overlap'.

For example, suppose you need help with dressing in the morning. A different weighting would apply if your need was 'I always need someone to do this for me', compared to 'I always need two or more people to assist me'.

The calculation works out if your needs could be met at the same time as other needs. For example, where you might need someone to help with dressing in the morning and preparing a meal in the evening. If you also need someone to drop by once or twice a day to check you are safe, these checks could be done in the morning at the same time as helping with dressing and in the evening to help prepare your meal.

#### Family/Friends Support

• Any ongoing unpaid support for areas of need is then used to adjust your estimated personal budget.

For example, if you need help with making meals every day and your family is able and willing to help make your meals every day, then no money is needed in your personal budget for this task. If your family could only provide help a few days a week then some money would be needed in your budget to provide support with the task when no unpaid help is available.



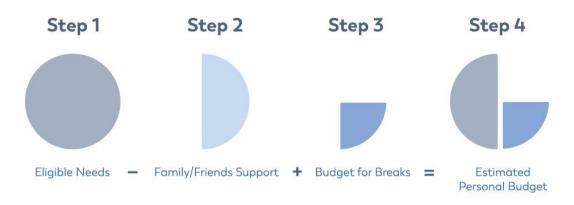
#### **Budgets for Breaks**

• Your assessment should also capture if unpaid carers will require regular breaks through the year in order for them to continue in their caring role.

The amount is dependent on how much support they provide and the effect of supporting you on their own independence.

#### **Estimated Personal Budget**

The Formulate calculation steps above are shown below as a diagram, to show how each step works.



### What if you think the budget is too little or too much?

No approach is perfect, and everyone's personal situation is different. This is why we calculate an Estimated Personal Budget (EB).

If you feel it is not realistic, for example it is either too low or too high:

- 1) find out whether you feel that your needs have been recorded correctly in your assessment; and
- 2) check that the amount of unpaid support that your family, friends or volunteers will provide is correct.

It is important to remember that, at this stage, no final decision has been made about your Actual Personal Budget (AB).

## How is your Actual Personal Budget determined?

We will confirm your AB after your care and support plan has been prepared, agreed and meets your eligible needs.

Your AB may be lower or higher than the estimated figure, due to your specific personal situation. There may be other factors that also mean the EB and AB are different, such as variation in the local cost and availability of a particular type of support that you need.

We may also complete a financial assessment at this stage, to decide if you will need to contribute to any care and support proposed.