

About this guide

This guide is for people whom Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council currently act as Appointee and are now going to manage their own money and property.

This guide will explain

- How the relinquishment process will work
- Your responsibilities when taking control of your own money
- Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council's responsibilities in handing your money back to you.

If there is anything in this guidance that you do not understand, please speak to your health or social care worker using the contact details provided at the end of the guide.

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1. What will the Council do?

The council will:

- Inform the relevant benefit office that they are no longer responsible for receiving your benefits
- Inform other relevant agencies that they are no longer responsible for acting on your behalf
- Continue to pay your bills until an agreed date for you to take responsibility
- Release any funds held on your behalf, once you are in receipt of your own benefits

2. How to begin the relinquishment process

If you want to take control of your own finances you must have a conversation with your Social Worker. Your Social Worker will make a decision around if you are able to take over this responsibility – this called a Capacity Assessment.

If you do have capacity to handle your own affairs, the Social Worker will send the Capacity Assessment to the Property and Financial Affairs Team.

The Property and Financial Affairs Team will then inform the Benefits Agency that Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council no longer wish to look after your affairs, and will request that your benefits are paid directly to you.

To enable this, you must have a bank account in your own name, and account details must be given to the Benefits Agency by yourself.

You should contact the Property and Financial Affairs Team or your Social Worker to advise when you start to receive benefits into your own account. Arrangements will then be made to transfer any monies held on your behalf back to you.

3. Your Responsibilities

When the Council gives you your money back you will take responsibility for handling all of your own financial affairs.

This will include, but is not limited to;

- You will inform the relevant benefits agency of any changes in circumstances, for example if you move house, start to work or your savings change
- You will pay your bills including rent, council tax and gas and electric
- You will inform all relevant agencies if you move address or start work – this will affect benefits including housing benefit and council tax claims
- You will inform your landlord if you decide to leave your current tenancy

The Council will only hand your money back to you if a Social Worker agrees that you have the capacity to handle your own affairs. The Council will not be liable if you fail to inform the relevant agencies of any changes in circumstances.

To find out more about the Council's Appointee and Deputyship service, contact your Health or Social Care worker who will be able to help you.

The following websites can provide assistance

www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk.

If you need help to read or understand this guide, please speak to your Health or Social Care worker, or contact Adult Social Care on 01642 771500

Contact Details Adult Social Care

Directorate of Adults & Communities
Adult Social Care
Redcar and Cleveland Borough
Council
Seafeld House
Kirkleatham Street
Redcar
Yorkshire
TS10 1SP

Telephone: 01642 771500

Email:

contactus@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Website: www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Sign Video App (for BSL users)

Office hours: Monday to Thursday: 8.30 am - 5.00 pm and Friday: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm.

If you need help in emergency when our offices are closed, you can contact the Emergency Duty Team: 01642 524552.

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