



## How does Mencap support people to manage their money?

We know that people's finances are an important part of their ability to live the life they choose.

Some of the people we support have independence when it comes to their finances, whilst others may need additional support to manage them effectively. Everyone is different, so it is important to support people to manage finances in line with their needs, capacity and circumstances.

Mencap is commissioned to provide services in a variety of ways; by people we support, families or by local authorities. The decision on whether someone needs support with their finances is usually made following a Financial Capacity Assessment; this assessment helps us to know what support people will need, and whether Mencap needs to provide this.

Where we are commissioned to provide support to people with their finances we will:

- ensure that our colleagues are trained to support people with their money in the way that they need
- confirm that the person needs support with their finances, and assess how much, or how little support they need and what that support looks like
- discuss with the person how they would like to spend their money
- support people to budget effectively so they are able to do the things that are important to them
- ensure that we maintain awareness of financial abuse amongst colleagues and people that we support, and that people know where to go if they have concerns.

We take our responsibility to support people with their finances seriously, and have a number of policies, procedures and checks in place. You can find out more about these from the managers that oversee the service.

## Talking to you about finances

It is important we support people in the best way for them, so we will discuss this with you early on to ensure you know how we will be providing support, and to agree how we can work together.

### Safeguarding

Our safeguarding policy enables us to keep people safe from all types of abuse, including financial abuse. If you have any concerns about financial abuse, you can speak to any of the managers who have responsibility for overseeing the service, or raise a safeguarding concern yourself. See the *How does Mencap keep people safe?* document in the Better Together pack for further information.

