



**Disability
Equality
Scotland**

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Disability Related Expenditure

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Working towards Equality, Inclusion and Participation for Disabled People in Scotland

- We are a national organisation
- We are member-led
- We represent disabled people in Scotland
- We listen to the views of disabled people
- We work in partnership with others to influence policies



What is Disability Related Expenditure (DRE)?

- Expenditure that you would not normally have if you were a non-disabled person or did not have a long term condition.
- Local Authority must leave you with enough money to cover DRE if **it is not provided** by local authority/NHS.
- You need to let the local authority know of any DRE.
- Think about what your expenditure is over a week, month, year.
- Don't just assume that because it is part of your life, that it isn't DRE.



How does the supported person qualify?

- The extra expenses must be related to long term condition/impairment
- It should be clearly noted in your support plan.
- Needs to be regular expenditure – not necessarily weekly/monthly – it could be a yearly occurrence or even a large purchase (eg specialised mattress). Cost/expected length of use = yearly payment
- Receipts/proof of purchase/regularity must be provided
- Cannot be something that can be purchased cheaper or by grant.



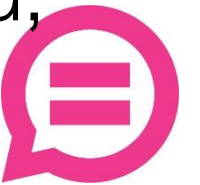
Flat Rate or Percentage?

- Working out the allowance for DRE is dependent on each local authority.
- They may have a flat maximum rate amount that can be deducted from care charges or a percentage costing
- You can update your expenditure with local authority if new purchases are required
- Some local authorities will have a set amount they reduce if you receive a disability benefit – you only need to tell them anything above this amount.



Examples of Disability Related Expenditure

- **Specialised items and services** – eg wheelchair, mobility scooter (remember repairs and maintenance), private care to support any provided by local authority (respite, overnights or additional support)
- **Increased use of non-specialised items and services** – eg washing powder, transportation, heating, cleaners
- **Higher cost non-specialised items and services** – eg food, home deliveries, cleaning products.



Other Support Available

- 0% VAT on disability related purchases
- Social tariff for internet
- Energy suppliers may offer additional support or reduced tariff
- 50% of road tax (if not using Motability) – need enhanced ADP mobility.
- Certain areas across Scotland allow reduced rail travel with the NEC card (eg Strathclyde, Fife)

