

Appendix 3

Disability Related Expenditure (DRE) Allowances

Disability Related Expenditure – Standard Allowances:

A standard allowance for disability related expenditure will be allowed for customers who undergo a full financial assessment and qualify by receiving either Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment or Attendance Allowance.

The client's care and support must be provided in a community based setting, including a person's own home.

A Client can request an individual assessment of Disability Related Expenditure if they feel that their Disability Related costs are higher than the standard amount.

A standard rate of DRE will be applied. The amount depends on the age of the customer and the disability benefit that they are in receipt of, as per the table below:

Age / Disability Benefit Category	Standard Allowance Per week
Aged between 18- Pension Age	
Low Rate Disability Living Allowance/PIP	£10.00 per week
Mid Rate Disability Living Allowance/PIP	£15.00 per week
High Rate Disability Living Allowance/PIP	£25.00 per week
Over Pension Age	
Low Rate Attendance Allowance/PIP	£15.00 per week
High Rate Attendance Allowance/PIP	£25.00 per week

Disability Related Expenditure – Additional Allowances:

If the actual disability related expenditure is **above** the standard amounts above, the Client will be assisted to list these individually. The Client will be required to provide proof of expenses such as receipts or bank statements detailing each item.

All additional expenditure will require verification. This will be done via receipts and bank statements, and all expenditure will need to be relevant and reasonable.

Disability-related Expense	Amount considered in assessment	Evidence required
Community Alarm System (Excluding any Telecare equipment provided by the Council free of charge)	£0 - provided free of charge in Tower Hamlets. Actual cost claimable if reasonable for a non-council provided system unless included in a housing benefit claim	Bills from provider
Privately arranged care	Actual cost claimable if Social Care Practitioner confirms requirement as part of the Care Plan and Council supported care is reduced accordingly	Signed receipts for at least 4 weeks
Private Domestic help	Actual cost claimable if Social Care Practitioner confirms requirement as part of the Care Plan and Council supported care is reduced accordingly	Signed receipts for at least 4 weeks
Dietary	Allowable expenditure where specific diet required with good reason (e.g. due to specific illness, condition or food allergy). DRE award based on Weekly Spend of £30.	Receipts showing special purchases to meet dietary items due to specific illness, condition of food allergy
Gardening	Allowable expenditure if service user is unable to maintain a garden due to disability and there are no other household members who could do so. Amount discretionary based on individual costs of garden maintenance. Indicative guide (individual circumstances may vary). 1 hour of gardening @ £15-£25 per month maximum – would equal a maximum of £6 week. This allows for seasonal variation in requirements.	Signed receipts for at least 4 weeks
Wheelchair	Allowable expenditure with the following claimable: £3.75 per week manual wheelchair £9.12 per week powered wheelchair	Evidence of costs being incurred on a weekly basis or purchase. No allowance if equipment provided by Council/NHS free of charge.
Powered bed	Actual cost claimable divided by 500 (10 year life) up to a maximum of £4.20 per week	Evidence of purchase. No allowance if equipment provided by Council/NHS free of charge.
Turning bed	Actual cost claimable divided by 500 up to a maximum of £7.27 per week	Evidence of purchase. No allowance if equipment provided by Council/NHS free of charge.

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Powered reclining chair	Actual cost claimable divided by 500 up to a maximum of £3.30 per week	Evidence of Service User purchase without DFG input. No allowance if equipment is provided by Council/NHS free of charge.
Stair-lift	Actual cost claimable divided by 500 up to a maximum of £5.88 per week	Evidence of Service User purchase without DFG input. No allowance if equipment is provided by Council/NHS free of charge.
Hoist	Actual cost claimable divided by 500 up to a maximum of £2.88 per week	Evidence of Service User purchase without DFG input. No allowance if equipment is provided by Council/NHS free of charge.
Clothing/ Footwear	Only allowable over and above 'usual' expenditure, £5 a week for an individual. Must be reasonable in relation to disability. This would include for example specialist clothing, and potentially frequent replacement of clothing in connection with incontinence issues. As a guide, it would be reasonable to expect specialist shoes + clothes are bought 4 x a year at £100 a time.	Receipts to evidence expenditure
Incontinence	Allowable claim for Pads, up to £7.28 a week for heavy incontinence (2 per day). Bed pads- up to £6.65 a week for heavy incontinence (1 per day) Barrier creams- up to £7 a week (2 * single use satchets per day)	Receipts to evidence expenditure
Laundry/Specialist Washing Powder	Allowable claim for £3.61 per week for extra or specialist washing powder. Launderette costs where it is not reasonable for a service user to have their own washing machine- £5 for single wash load, £5 per hour for large dryer. Allow for anything above 2 wash loads and 1 dryer load a week Total £15.	Receipts to evidence expenditure where Care Plan for client will have identified an incontinence problem that will require laundry/specialist washing requirements
Medication	These may not be claimed for without a note from a GP or Social Care Practitioner explaining why this is needed without a prescription.	Note from GP or Social Care Practitioner and receipts of purchase.
Phone/ Mobile phone/ internet	This would usually be considered as 'normal' expenditure and therefore not claimable. Only allowable if there is reasonable evidence of a requirement for usage over and above usual in relation to a disability.	Bills showing level and evidence of expenditure.
Transport	If transport costs are covered by mobility component of DLA or PIP, or Access to Work Payments, then not allowable. If the transport is directly related to the disability, and the expenditure, net of reasonable costs for a non-disabled Service User, is over and above any DLA or PIP mobility allowances, then this is allowable. For older people, if they are DRE eligible and DLA/PIP mobility does not cover it, any reasonable taxi usage due to disability would be allowable, as a non-disabled older Service User would travel at zero cost on public transport. London Councils Taxicard scheme for people getting some disability benefits is available and therefore additional transport allowance would not be claimable.	Receipts to evidence transport expenditure or proof of travel
Hairdressing	If the Service User is unable to wash their own hair and this is not achieved through the delivery of the Care and Support Plan, a suggested amount of up to £7 a week is claimable. Otherwise generally, this expenditure is not allowable. A disabled Service User may need a mobile hairdressing service to visit at home. If there are clearly evidenced exceptional circumstances, this is allowable.	Receipts to evidence expenditure
Spectacles	Any additional costs for specialist lenses needed due to a disability are allowable. Generally costs are divided by 104 (two year lifespan) unless there is evidence of more frequent replacement. General guideline amount claimable for normal prescription glasses £120.	Receipts to evidence expenditure