



Support Service

PETERBOROUGH COUNCIL *for* VOLUNTARY SERVICE



NEWSLETTER



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



The Direct Payment Support Service would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Many thanks to all of you who have spoilt us with chocolates and biscuits, they are greatly appreciated, but not by our waistlines.

We would also like to thank all of the people who have supported the coffee mornings. Your feedback and ideas are greatly received.

The last day we will be in the office this year is the 24th December and we will be back on the 4th of January refreshed and ready for action in the New Year. If you have an emergency or concern about your care, call social services 747474.

Make sure you wrap up warm and we look forward to hearing from you in the New year.



Blue Badge Holders

The Peterborough City Council has plans to charge blue badge holders in the city in an attempt to create revenue to update their disabled parking facilities in Peterborough.

The proposal is still being discussed, so charges will not be taking affect at this moment in time.

This may not apply to all parking areas, so the only way to be sure is to check the parking notices to see if a charge for disabled badge holders is in place at that particular car park.

Fish Insurance Update



Those of you that employ individuals will have heard of Fish Insurance.

Fish Insurance is a liability policy to cover you whilst employing people. Fish Insurance have now updated there policy to include redundancy payments. The Peterborough City

Council pay for basic cover which does not include this element.

Some of you may only employ one family member to support but for those of you that have concerns about redundancy payments or have numerous employees we recommend that you opt for the full cover.

As the City Council pay for basic cover, the Direct Payment can be used to top it up. Let us know if you wish to increase your premium It will cost an extra £58.



DLA Update

DLA's replacement, the personal independence payment, is due to be rolled out in 2013. It will be a non-means-tested and non-taxable benefit. Like DLA, it will be available to people in and out of work. But the reforms will tighten eligibility in several ways:

- Claimants will have to have had an impairment or health condition for six months, not three, as at present.
- A wider range of aids and adaptations will be taken into account in the assessment process, meaning that people who can get about in wheelchairs may be ineligible.
- There will no longer be automatic entitlements for people with specific health conditions.
- All claimants will be assessed by a healthcare professional approved by the Department for Work and Pensions.

(Sourced: Community Care, 2010)

E mails.

Many of you already use emails and this is a good way of enabling us to contact you.

If you are a payroll client this is an efficient way to deliver your **Payroll payslips**.

If you would like us to use your email please let us know your address.

Financial Records - Reminder.



Remember that financial records have to be completed every 3 months as part of your Direct Payment agreement. The financial record sheets have to be sent with copies of bank statements to:

Mrs Lin Montgomery
Peterborough Primary Care Trust
Second Floor, Town Hall
Bridge Street, PETERBOROUGH PE1 1FA

If you require support to complete these returns please contact us: **01733 342683**



NEXT COFFEE MORNING



A chance for an informal Easter meeting on

Tuesday 12th April 2011

10.30am—12.30pm

At

The Lindens

86 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2SN



Light Refreshments

Places limited. Book your place by 5th April 2011.

Telephone Direct Payments on 01733 342683

Or Email: direct.payments@pcvs.co.uk

Respite Holidays



Did you know that you can be quite creative with your respite money? As long as the main carer gets a break, which is the aim of respite and it is not immoral or illegal, then you can be as creative as you like. You will find that there is something for everyone, with support for all levels of need. Here are some of the respite holidays people have taken:

- **Park House Hotel Sandringham** (pictured) offer accommodation that is appropriate for individuals with varied disabilities and the carer or spouse. They have hoists and nursing staff if required. Park House is located near Sandringham woods, Sandringham House and Hunstanton.
Contact details: Tel: 01485 543000 Email: parkinfo@LCDisability.org
- **Vitalise holidays** offer activity breaks and themed party weeks where you are either supported by volunteers or care staff depending on your requirements. Whether you want to be independent and party or have a relaxing week beside the waterside they have plenty of choice and cater for varied needs.
Contact details: Tel: 0845 345 1970. Website: <http://www.vitalise.org.uk/>
Email: info@vitalise.org.uk
- **Bond Holidays** offer accessible holidays whether you fancy a coach trip, a week in a hotel in Blackpool or staying in a caravan near a nature reserve.
Contact information: Tel: 01253 341218 Website: <http://www.bondhotel.co.uk/>
Email: sales@bondhotel.co.uk

Useful Information/ Numbers.

PCIU - Patient, Client Invoicing Unit
2nd Floor, Town Hall, Bridge Street,
Peterborough, PE1 1FA
Tel: 01733 758477



PCS - Peterborough Community Services
Adult Social Care, Sundance House
Staniland Way, Werrington, Peterborough, PE4 6WR
Tel: 01733 747474

FAO - Financial Assessment Office
Sundance House, Staniland Way,
Werrington, Peterborough, PE4 6WR
Tel: 01733 746131

The Direct Payment Support Service Team.

Chris Hendry - Project Worker
Karen Lawrence-Clarke - Project Worker
Val Porter - Payroll / Admin. Support
Faith Boys - Financial Records / Admin. Support



Address: Direct Payments
3 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road
Peterborough, PE1 2RP
Tel: 01733 342683

Email: direct.payments@pcvs.co.uk

FOOTNOTE - Over to you.

If there is anything you would like to see in the newsletter, any questions we can help with or you would like to share your experiences with other Direct Payment recipients - please contact the Team.

See contact details above.