**How do I choose a wheelchair with the Third Party PWB option?**

You will need to contact an approved supplier who accepts the PWB scheme and give them your wheelchair specification. Any wheelchair you choose must meet this specification.

**Can I just go ahead and buy the wheelchair?**

The Wheelchair Service needs to approve your choice of wheelchair before purchase. A PWB cannot be issued retrospectively i.e. you cannot buy a wheelchair and then ask for a PWB.

**What if my wheelchair costs me less than the Third Party PWB offered to me?**

The Wheelchair Service will pay the approved supplier up to the cost of the wheelchair if the cost is less than the PWB or to the value of the PWB if the wheelchair cost is greater than the PWB.

**Can I buy pressure relieving cushions?**

Pressure relieving cushions, postural seating and special seating are provided by the NHS. Your chosen wheelchair must be compatible with the accessories to be provided. Please note, only one pressure relieving cushion and one cover are provided, replacements are provided if/when they are beyond economical repair.

**What is not included in the scheme?**

Second hand wheelchairs, scooters and trikes cannot be purchase with a PWB.

The wheelchair you choose must meet your wheelchair specification and be crash worthy; (exceptions apply in some categories of wheelchairs – your clinician can discuss this with you if required). We do not deal with internet only Suppliers.

**How long do I have to access my PWB?**

Following your assessment and agreement to access your PWB, you have three months to redeem the budget against your chosen wheelchair. Any request after this time would require a reassessment.

NHS England Website on Personal Health Budgets:

[www.personalhealthbudgets.england.nhs.uk](http://www.personalhealthbudgets.england.nhs.uk)

CCICP is committed to ensuring that patients and staff will always be treated with dignity and respect. There will be no age, disability, gender, race, sexual orientation or religious discrimination.



Reviewed by Readers’ Panel
February 2018.

This information is available in audio, Braille, large print and other languages. To request a copy, please telephone 01625 663345.

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**Personal Wheelchair Budgets**

Information for patients, relatives and carers

**Wheelchair Service**

Congleton War Memorial Hospital

Canal Road

Congleton

CW12 3AR

Direct Line: 01625 663345
Email: tmr-tr.wac@nhs.net

**What are Personal Wheelchair Budgets (PWB)?**

A PWB is a scheme offered to provide a wider choice for wheelchair users.

During your assessment you will work in partnership with a Wheelchair Therapist to identify your needs and the outcomes that you want to achieve from your wheelchair. You will then be prescribed an NHS wheelchair and be told of the value of your PWB.

**At this stage you have three options:**

**Option one - Notional PWB**

You can choose to accept the prescribed NHS wheelchair. The wheelchair remains the property of the NHS and we would be responsible for repairs and maintenance. There is no cost to you but in the event that you no longer require the wheelchair, it must be returned to the Wheelchair Service.

**Option two – Notional with (Client) Contribution**

You may decide that you would like additional features added to the wheelchair prescribed for you by the Wheelchair Service. We would invoice you for the additional features and upon receipt of your payment we would order the wheelchair. The wheelchair remains the property of the NHS and we would be responsible for the repairs and maintenance of the standard wheelchair but not the additional features you have chosen, such as hub brakes or seat risers. All of the normal conditions of loan will apply.

**Option three – Third party PWB**

This option gives you an amount for the wheelchair. It will then be your responsibility to order your own wheelchair via an approved supplier. The wheelchair you choose will have to meet your mobility and postural needs and be in the same category as the wheelchair prescribed for you e.g. manual, indoor powered, indoor/outdoor etc. This wheelchair becomes your property and you will be responsible for all maintenance and repairs.

An annual amount of money for repairs will be allocated. You can reclaim up to this set amount upon proof of your payment. The annual amount will be documented in your PWB agreement and may not cover the actual amount of the repair.

**Frequently asked questions:**

**How long does the scheme last and what if I want to change my wheelchair?**

Equipment is typically provided for a period of five years for adults and three years for children, however, under certain circumstances a change to the length may be considered. Changes or additions to the equipment provided are not permitted for the duration of the scheme, unless there has been a significant change in your clinical condition. This will be discussed with your Wheelchair Therapist at your assessment.

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**Can everyone access their PWB?**

During assessment you will be advised if you are eligible for the scheme. If you are under 18 or have a deteriorating medical condition and are likely to have frequent changes to your wheelchair requirements, it may not be appropriate. With NHS provision we can support your needs as your condition changes.

**How do I access PWB?**

Your assessor will talk to you at your assessment about the PWB and together a wheelchair support plan can be completed.

**How do I get my wheelchair repaired or maintained?**

If your wheelchair is a Notional PWB or a Notional PWB with (Client) Contribution (excluding additional features), you can contact our Approved Repairer:

Ross Care

Westfield Road

Wallasey

CH44 7HX

Tel: 0845 230 1559 (option one)