

# POhWER

advocacy, making your voice heard

## Direct Payments in Telford and Wrekin



We offer free Independent Information, Advice and Advocacy Services to help people understand their rights, be treated as equals and be heard.

# Direct Payments Advisory Service

## What are direct payments?

Direct payments are a method of funding given to people who need to use social care services, but would prefer to use the money to organise their own care.

Direct payments gives service users greater choice, flexibility and independence.

## How can I get help?

POhWER's Direct Payments Advisory Service is here to answer your questions and assist you with setting up and managing your care using direct payments.

## We can provide:

- Telephone advice and information,
- Online fact sheets,
- One-to-one support from our specially trained Direct Payments Advisors.

**Our service is free, confidential  
and independent.**

## **POhWER's Direct Payments Advisory Service can offer support and guidance on issues including:**

### **Employment**

- Recruiting a personal assistant - including writing a job description, conducting a criminal record check and interview guidance,
- Employment law - including health and safety, sick pay, writing a contract and arranging insurance,
- Training - how to be a good employer.

### **Finance**

- Tax - including registering with the Inland Revenue,
- Payroll - including setting up your own payroll or accessing our system, payslips and timesheets,
- Keeping records - including holiday, sick and tax forms,
- Opening a bank account.



**Are you looking for a  
Personal (care) Assistant?**

Go to **[www.find-a-pa.com](http://www.find-a-pa.com)** and choose from a selection of PAs that want to work in your area!

# How to contact us:



telephone - 0300 456 2370 (charged at local rate)



minicom - 0300 456 2364



text - send the word 'pohwer' with your name and number to 81025



email - pohwer@pohwer.net



Skype - pohwer.advocacy  
(8am to 6pm Monday to Friday)



fax - 0300 4546 2365



post - PO Box 14043, Birmingham, B6 9BL

website - [www.pohwer.net](http://www.pohwer.net)

 Follow us on Twitter @POhWERadvocacy

## Access to information

- We provide leaflets and information in a variety of languages and formats, Easy Read, audio and DVDs
- We have access to translation and interpreting services
- We use communication toolkits, Makaton and other signing techniques

