

# Paying for long term care

**Living longer, is good news... isn't it? While we're living longer, there's greater risk that we live longer in poorer health.**

In broad terms, if you have more than £23,250 in England (potentially including the value of your home), you will need to self-fund your own care. This threshold will usually include the value of your home, but it may be disregarded in certain circumstances and certain types of investment are excluded.

Care homes can be expensive and will vary by region. Many people don't consider what happens if their money runs out or the likelihood of this happening.

We can help you make the right decisions at what can be an unsettling and anxious time. We offer professional, regulated and qualified advice and recommend the best way to fund care from the options available to you. We're here to help.

## **Here's how we can help as regulated qualified later life advisors**

- We offer an initial consultation at no cost to you.
- We'll assess the position and let you know whether we can help and, if so, what we can do. We'll then outline what our charges are for our services.
- Our initial telephone discussion will be to gather as much information as possible. We can meet in person if that's appropriate.
- We'll require financial information about the person requiring care such as details of assets and income.
- We'll check you're receiving everything you're entitled to – even self-funders may be entitled to some benefits.
- We will consider all the funding options. Options include, but aren't limited to, NHS funding, investments and Immediate Care Plans (ICP).

We'll survey the market and obtain quotes from providers of these ICP solutions to determine the most appropriate. This may take some time as the providers will need to obtain medical evidence and assess the details of the person requiring care.

## **Get in touch**

The requirement for care can be a stressful time for all concerned. We hope to help alleviate some of that stress and potentially bring you peace of mind.

The earlier we talk to you the better as once capital has eroded by any significant degree it gets more difficult to provide solutions. If you or any of your loved ones need care and self-funding it or considering it, then contact us now to arrange your appraisal.

**Living longer needn't be bad news. Contact us to find out how we can help you assess your long-term care needs:**

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In the meantime, you may find some of these websites a useful source of information:

### **NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) – fully funded:**

- <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/social-care-and-support-guide/Pages/nhs-continuing-care.aspx>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-framework-for-nhs-continuing-healthcare-and-nhs-funded-nursing-care>

### **Attendance allowance (DWP and/or Gov.uk) and Age UK service:**

- <https://www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance>
- <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/benefits-entitlements/attendance-allowance/>

### **Legal:**

- Law society to find a solicitor: <http://solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk/>
- Solicitors for the Elderly (SFE): <http://www.sfe.legal/>

### **Charities for fact sheets:**

- Independent Age: <https://www.independentage.org/information/advice-guides-factsheets-leaflets>
- Age UK: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/>

### **First stop care advice/ Elderly Accommodation Council:**

- <http://www.firststopcareadvice.org.uk/>