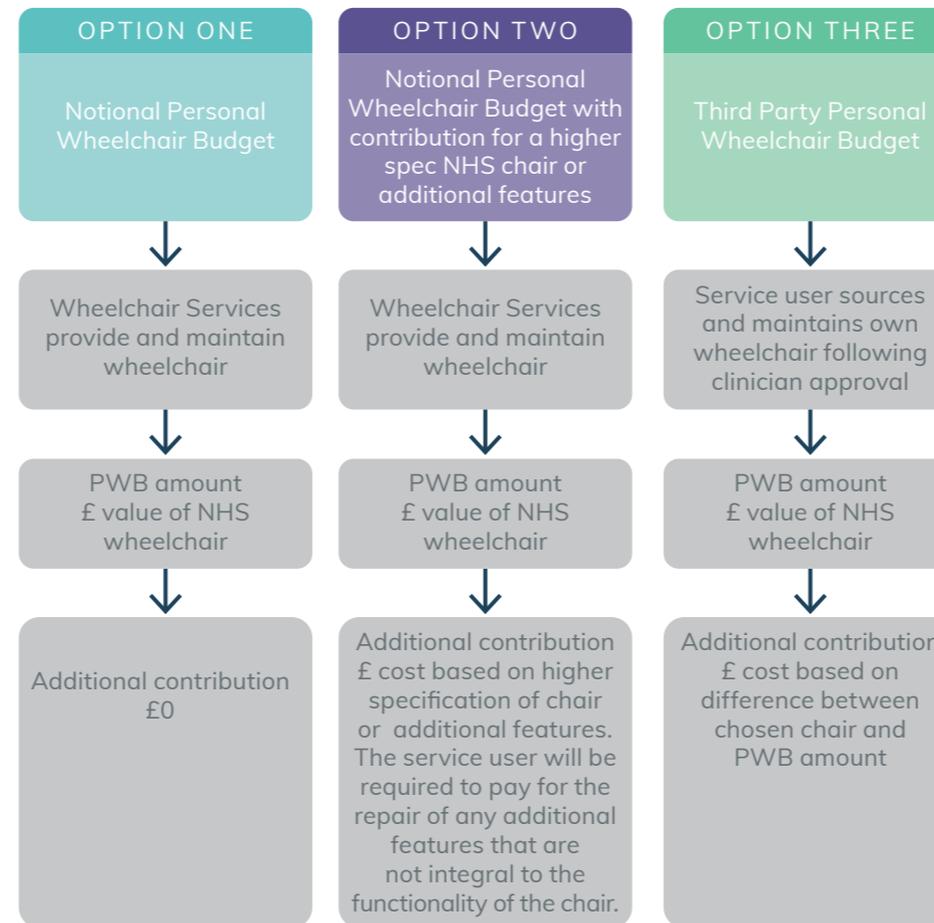




The three PWB options



Contact us

If you would like to discuss anything further, please contact us on

📞 0344 893 6375

✉ hull.wheelchairservice@nhs.net

🏠 [Hull & East Riding Wheelchair Service,](#)
11 Reed Street, Hull, HU2 8JJ



Personal Wheelchair Budget options frequently asked questions

Information for service users

FAQs

i What are Personal Wheelchair Budget options?

... The Personal Wheelchair Budget (PWB) has been designed to provide wheelchair and buggy users with greater choice and control regarding their wheelchair provision. This enhanced version has replaced the previous Wheelchair Voucher Scheme.

i Will I need to be assessed if I would like a PWB?

... Yes. You will be invited to attend a clinic appointment where your wheelchair therapist will assess your wheelchair needs. Any questions you may have, can be answered during this appointment.

i What options will I have?

... There are 3 options:

1. Notional PWB (standard NHS provision)

This enables you to have a basic wheelchair or buggy which will meet your identified postural and mobility needs.

2. Notional PWB with contribution

This option allows you or another agency to contribute to your PWB to either have a higher specification NHS wheelchair/buggy or to add additional features to the chair being provided. This integrated budget may be contributed to from other organisations e.g. the Local Authority; where wider needs can be met through this provision. Alternatively this money may come from yourself or a voluntary/charitable organisation. There are significant administration tasks required to co-ordinate this and an additional administration fee of £20.00 may be applied where follow-up to contributors has to be made and/or prompt payment is not received.

3. Third Party PWB.

In discussion with your wheelchair therapist, if it is clinically appropriate, you can choose to use your PWB as a contribution to buying a wheelchair/buggy from an independent retailer outside of the NHS.

For options 1 and 2 these wheelchairs and buggies remain the property of the NHS and will need to be returned to the wheelchair service when no longer required or your needs change, this includes any additional accessories that may have been added to the chair.

Option 2 and option 3 PWB last for 5 years for adults and 3 years for children other than in exceptional circumstances.

i How do I arrange to be assessed?

... If you are known to the Wheelchair Service, you can call and request a reassessment. If you do not currently have a wheelchair issued by the Wheelchair Service, your G.P. or healthcare professional can refer you for an assessment.

i What about maintenance and insurance?

It is important to regularly maintain and repair your wheelchair throughout the time of your PWB.

The NHS will be responsible for the maintenance and repair of essential parts that are supplied as part of any Notional PWB (option 1).

For Notional PWB with contribution (option 2) any repairs which are integral to the functionality of the chair will be maintained by the NHS. An upfront contribution is not required for the repair of additional accessories, embellishments or features that are not integral to the functionality of the wheelchair (e.g. additional set of high performance tyres), however the responsibility for the repair, maintenance or replacement remains with the service user or the funding source. Embellishments (e.g. phone holders) that are not integral to the functionality of the wheelchair are to be funded by you. Any repair, maintenance or replacement of accessories remains the responsibility of the user.

The Third Party PWB (option3) includes a contribution from the NHS towards repairs and maintenance as the chair will be owned by you and will not qualify for NHS repairs.

Public Liability Insurance is not included in your PWB. However it is strongly recommended if you are using your wheelchair in a public place, particularly a powered wheelchair.

If you are intending to travel in a vehicle whilst seated in your wheelchair, it is essential that the wheelchair model you have chosen has been crash tested by the manufacturer and that is included in your travel insurance.

i What is the Personal Wheelchair Support Plan?

... Before your assessment you will be asked to think about the things that are important to you. You will be asked to complete a short Personal Wheelchair Support Plan which will help you and the therapist to find the most appropriate wheelchair for your assessed needs.

i How are additional contributions made?

... If you choose Option 2, Notional PWB with contribution, then the wheelchair service will invoice you or whichever organisation may be contributing for the additional value and the goods will only be supplied once payment has been received.

... If a third-party PWB is authorised we will make a direct payment to the manufacturer or supplier that you are purchasing your wheelchair or buggy from. If the value of your PWB is greater than the cost of your NHS provision, then the supplier will only receive the amount covering the cost of the equipment.

i Do I pay VAT?

... A wheelchair provided under the option 1 and 2 remain the property of the NHS and is therefore subject to VAT. A wheelchair provided under the option 3 will be zero rated under item 2 of Group 12 of Schedule 8 of the VAT Act 1994. If you decide to choose option 3 you will need to complete a VAT exemption form.

i Will I be expected to return the NHS chair I have now?

... Yes, your current NHS wheelchair will have to be returned to Hull and East Yorkshire wheelchair service.

i Will you still provide a pressure relief cushion if I need one?

... Yes, we will still provide a pressure relief cushion if clinically required. This will not affect the type or the amount of your budget.

