The easy way to manage your Personal Health Budget
A Personal Health Budget (PHB) is an amount of funding provided by the NHS, to support you in achieving your specific health goals or outcomes.

An agreement is signed between you and your local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which will set out a plan as to how you will best use the funding to achieve your health goals. This could be by employing a Personal Assistant (PA), arranging support or purchasing products.

**Personal Health Budgets can:**
- Enable you to personalise your care
- Help you to feel in control and remain independent
- Allow you to access a wider range of support than traditionally available from the NHS
Using PHBChoices to Manage Your PHB

PHBChoices is an online care marketplace which enables you to purchase both products and services from a range of local and national suppliers, using a virtual budget.

The layout and user experience of PHBChoices will be familiar to anyone that has purchased products online and gives you full control of your PHB, providing peace of mind for you and your family.

PHBChoices supports all types of care, including purchasing products, directly employing PAs or using a homecare agency.

If you need help managing your account, there is the option of appointing a trusted friend or family member to look after your account on your behalf.

PHBChoices is the easy way to manage your Personal Health Budget.
PHBChoices makes it easy to buy the products you need to achieve your health outcomes. The look and feel will be familiar to anyone that has purchased products online.

With a growing range of local and national suppliers on board, PHBChoices allows you to explore the local market in a single search, comparing specifications, ratings and prices, enabling you to make informed decisions.

From aids for daily living through to payroll and insurance, PHBChoices brings together a range of providers who will help you in achieving your health goals.

For some products, the decision to purchase will be straightforward; others may require a degree of adaptation or personalisation. In this instance, PHBChoices secure messaging functionality enables two-way communication between the PHB holder and suppliers to discuss personalised requirements and quotations, with no obligation to purchase.
If you decide to employ your own Personal Assistant (PA) then you are an employer which means you have a number of responsibilities. These include providing a contract of employment, paying your PAs, organising payments for tax, national insurance and pensions, managing holidays and arranging necessary training.

For some becoming an employer seems overwhelming, however there are a number of significant benefits:

- You choose the individual(s) who will provide the care and support to you
- You decide what you want them to do and how they should do it
- You decide when you want them to work for you

PHBChoices simplifies the process of managing your PAs. Work schedules, timesheets, payroll services and payments are all managed in one place, providing assurance for both you and your PAs.
Using Care, Therapy and Other Service Providers

You may decide to use service providers with whom you book care, therapies or a range of general support services.

PHBChoices makes it easy to work with your service providers; you can agree the work to be done, finalise a timetable and schedule, see everything at a glance in your diary, receive and approve invoices and pay everything from within PHBChoices.

PHBChoices is easy to use and you have access to a wide range of different service providers. If you want to invite a service provider to join PHBChoices they can register and be ready to book your service in a matter of hours.

View, book and manage all your services in one place
Managing My Account

The My Account section within PHBChoices acts as the control centre for your Personal Health Budget (PHB). Bringing together all the information about your PHB into a single place simplifying the process of managing your PHB and ensuring all key information is at hand when required.

You and your budget
Within My Account you can review, edit and update your personal details or delivery address to reflect any change in personal circumstance or appoint a proxy user to manage your PHB on your behalf. This is also where your Personal Budget Summary is available allowing you to view the balance and history of your PHB.

Arranging your support
All secure communication with suppliers and providers is recorded within the Your Quotes and Your Enquiries functions of PHBChoices. A full order history is also available, allowing you a full view of how your budget is being spent.

Managing your support
Keeping track of your booked services is simplified through the ability to view service timetables and invoices for both PAs and service providers. You are also able to provide feedback and rate your experience to help inform the choices made by other PHB holders.

Full visibility and control for you or your proxy
There are a number of ways to become a PHBChoices member and experience a simplified way of managing your Personal Health Budget.

Membership is tailored to meet the needs of you as an individual.

If you receive a direct payment from your local CCG into your bank account or as someone who funds their own care or support, you can sign up to PHBChoices and start realising the benefits today.

Useful Links:
• www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs
• www.gov.uk/workplace-pensions
• www.nestpensions.org.uk/schemeweb/nest.html
• www.skillsforcare.org.uk
• www.livingwage.org.uk