

Personal Wheelchair Budgets (PWB) Options Explained



Opcare

Enhancing your ability

A brand of the AM Healthcare Group

Types of PWBs explained

There are two types of PWBs as explained on the last page

- Notional (NHS provision, alternative and top up)
- Third Party.

Eligibility

At your assessment you will be advised which budgets you are eligible for. With a rapidly changing medical condition, it may be more appropriate to stay with the notional PWB options in order for the NHS to support your needs as they change.

Notional PWB: NHS provision

This is the standard NHS provision of wheelchair that the Wheelchair Service will issue you free of charge. A member of the Wheelchair Service will take into consideration your health and wellbeing needs and then recommend which equipment they can supply you with to best fit those needs. If you choose this option, the appropriate wheelchair will be ordered for you (or ideally provided on the same day where possible). The wheelchair remains the property of the NHS, who will provide free repairs and maintenance.

Notional PWB: alternative wheelchair

You can choose to upgrade your wheelchair within the Wheelchair Service range. The NHS will contribute towards this up to the same value as your prescribed wheelchair. The difference in cost (including VAT at 20%) will need to be paid before ordering. The wheelchair remains the property of the NHS, who will provide free repairs and maintenance. You will only be able to choose an alternative within the same category as the wheelchair you would be prescribed by the wheelchair service.

Notional PWB: top up for additional features

You can choose and pay to have additional features added to the wheelchair prescribed by the Wheelchair Service. Payment (including VAT at 20%) is needed before ordering. The wheelchair remains the property of the NHS who will provide free repairs and maintenance. **To cover the cost of maintenance for the extra part you purchase, a small fee will be charged upfront by the service. Please note that certain additions are excluded and cannot be repaired by the service e.g. if you top up for rain covers.**

Third party PWB

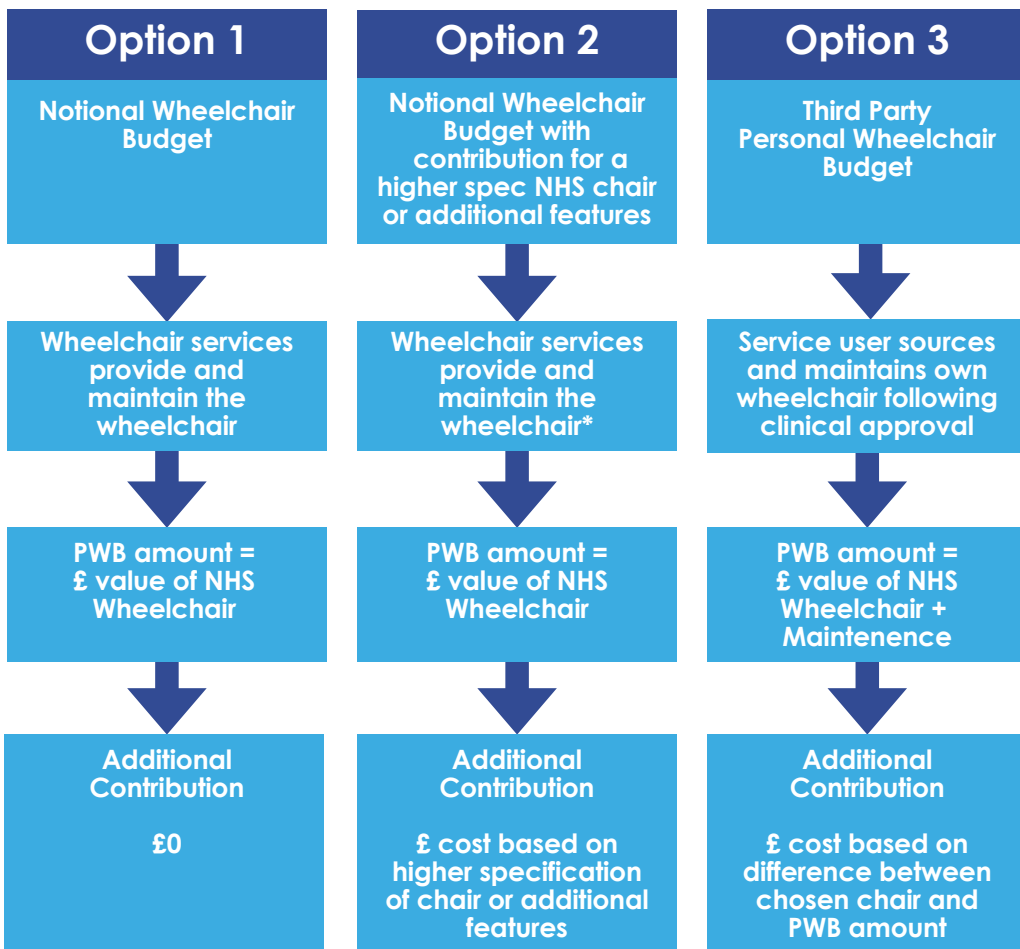
- You will be provided with funding to the same value as your prescribed NHS wheelchair, as well as a one-off payment to cover repair and maintenance costs which you will be responsible for arranging.
- The wheelchair you choose will have to meet your mobility and postural needs and be in the same category as the chair prescribed, e.g. manual or powered.
- You will need to choose a wheelchair from a supplier who accepts the PWB scheme.
- **The Wheelchair Service needs to approve your choice before purchase.** A PWB cannot be issued retrospectively i.e. you cannot buy a wheelchair and then ask for your PWB.
- If pressure relieving cushions, postural/special seating is provided by the NHS, your chosen wheelchair must be compatible with the accessories provided.



Next Steps

If you are happy to take the NHS notional option, the Wheelchair Service will supply you with equipment to meet your needs. If you would like to take any of the above options, please contact the Wheelchair Service or go to www.opcare.co.uk/nhs-clinic-locations to make a self referral so that a clinician can discuss this with you.

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* Wheelchair services provide and maintain the wheelchair. However, you may have to pay a contribution towards maintenance and repairs of the additional parts you purchase, which will cover you for the life of your wheelchair. Please note that certain additions are excluded and cannot be repaired by the service e.g. if you top up for rain covers.