



## Direct Payments Support Service Case Study

I am a 27 year old man who was born prematurely, and soon after birth suffered collapsed lungs and various complications, which led me to have a brain injury.

I suffer from cerebral palsy and have mild asthma, a hiatus hernia, Barrat's oesophagus and suffer about 4 or 5 epileptic fits a month. Needless to say, I am in a wheelchair which I am occasionally able to drive under supervision.

I need help with medication, toileting and feeding, along with management of my physiotherapy, epilepsy, communication and activities.

Since I was 3 I have lived with my grandparents, as my family found it hard to care for me. I have attended schools and colleges in the area, but when I left college I didn't know what was to follow.

Following meetings with Health and Social workers it was decided that an Individual Budget might be the best way forward for me as I could then enjoy doing the things I love best. My budget has been managed by my grandparents, with the aid of The Northampton Centre for Independent Living (NCIL).

At the outset, I was helped by the NCIL with my payroll; firstly in setting this up and then liaising with the Inland Revenue on my behalf. Following on from that, the NCIL has also assisted me with County Council Returns, and with help in recruiting new Personal Assistants.

The NCIL have helped me work out my budget so that I get the best out of the money I get from the County Council to enable me to enjoy my life. I am a very sociable person who takes part in many activities in the community where I am well known and well liked.

Without the CIL I think I would be lost, and my grandparents would definitely have too much to cope with. They have given me tremendous support over the past five and a half years and continue to do so. I can now enjoy what I want to do with the knowledge that all other matters relating to care and finance are in safe hands.