22nd December 2021

**Blue Light Card - Discount Scheme for Care Workers Workforce in Sheffield**

Sheffield City Council want to extend our appreciation and recognition for the dedication and commitment of all the care workers, including Personal Assistants throughout Sheffield in what has been and continues to be an extremely challenging time. We recognise that they have made such a positive difference to the quality of life of the people they support.

As part of this recognition Sheffield City Council are providing funding for all Sheffield care workers who sign up to the Blue Light Card before the end of March 2022, at a cost of £4.99 for two years. The initiative is being funded through the Workforce Retention and Recruitment Grant.

The card is for the exclusive use of health and social care workers and the emergency services. The Blue Light Card enables access to a huge range of discounts that can be used both online and in shops, restaurants and cinemas.

We would like to pass on this offer to Personal Assistants as soon as possible, so that they can take advantage of the discounts available from the Blue Light Card. Please pass on the attached letter to all your Personal Assistants.

Personal Assistants already in receipt of the card that they have paid for themselves are also able to claim the £4.99 back, as communicated in the letter.

To make sure Personal Assistants can sign up to the Blue Light Card scheme, they will need a letter to prove they are a key worker. For this, as their employer you should request a key worker from Disability Sheffield [Disability Sheffield website](https://www.disabilitysheffield.org.uk/coronavirus-information-and-support).

Email directpayments@disabilitysheffield.org.uk with the following information:

* Your name and address
* The name of your paid Personal Assistant

If you already have key worker letters, provided by Disability Sheffield then your Personal Assistants can use these.

To apply for the Blue Light Card, please click on the link provided for further information [**Welcome to Blue Light Card**](https://www.bluelightcard.co.uk/)

When registering for the card, Personal Assistants should follow these steps:

* From the Blue Light Card ‘Home’ page, click ‘register’
* In the ‘Your Service’ box, select ‘Social Care’, then click next
* In the ‘Your Trust / Division box, select ‘Care Company (workforce)’
* In the ‘You Job Title or Position, type ‘Personal Assistant, then click next
* They then will be able to add their personal details and will be requested to upload their ID badge. For this they should upload the key worker letter.

To allow Personal Assistants to claim the £4.99, they will need to forward proof of registration and payment along with their employer’s details to Disability Sheffield. The refund will be made to the Individual Employer in the next Direct Payment. The employer must then forward the refund to their Personal Assistants.

While you wait for your card to be dispatched through the post, you will be able to

download the Blue Light Card App to your Smartphone, with many retailers allowing

you to claim discounts by showing proof of your registration on your phone.

We will be sharing information regarding our Mental Health Wellbeing initiative to

further support care workers early in the new year.

For more information contact Disability Sheffield

Email: directpayments@disabilitysheffield.org.uk

Telephone: 0114 2536750

(we are closed from 24th Dec to 3rd Jan)