**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 over the festive period. Please pass on the attached letter to all 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, their employer should request a key worker from Disability Sheffield [Disability Sheffield website](https://www.disabilitysheffield.org.uk/coronavirus-information-and-support). They will need to provide their name and address and the names of the paid Personal Assistants. 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.

As part of Sheffield City Council’s wider Rewards and Benefits Scheme for Care Workers, we will be launching a Mental Health Wellbeing initiative in January. Further information will follow in the new year.