

Direct Payments & the COVID Pandemic

Introduction



Direct Payments Explained!

What is a direct payment

- Cash payments made to individuals.
- Money remains public funding until it is spent for the purpose given.
- Financially assessed.

Who can have a direct Payment?

- Parents of disabled children.
- Disabled young people 16 or 17.
- Disabled people.
- Adults who meet the eligibility criteria.
- Carers.
- Adults who have capacity to consent.

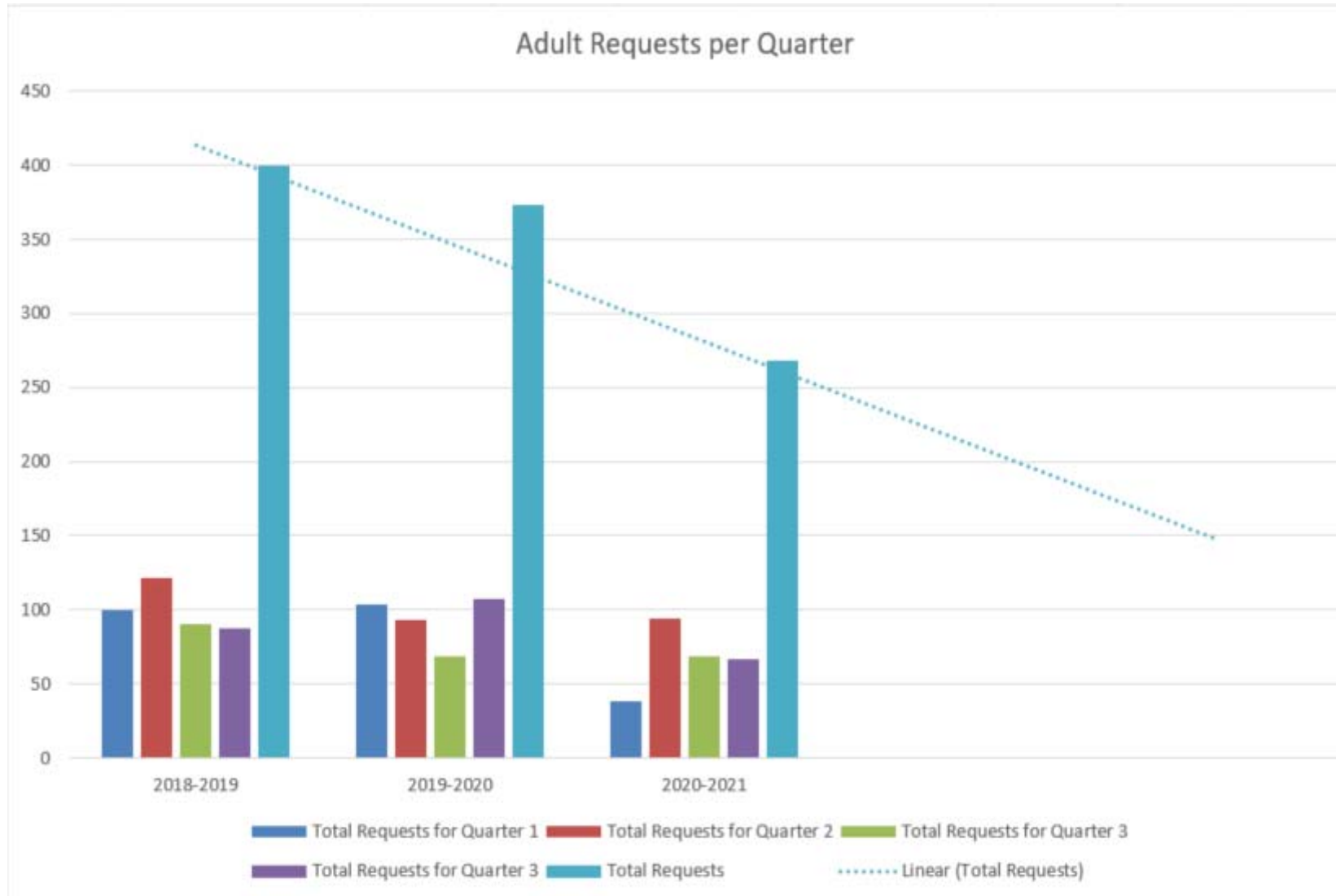
How can direct payments be used?

- Social activities.
- Equipment.
- Become an employer.
- Providers.
- Services from another local authority
- Respite/short breaks.

Applying Direct Payments in practice?

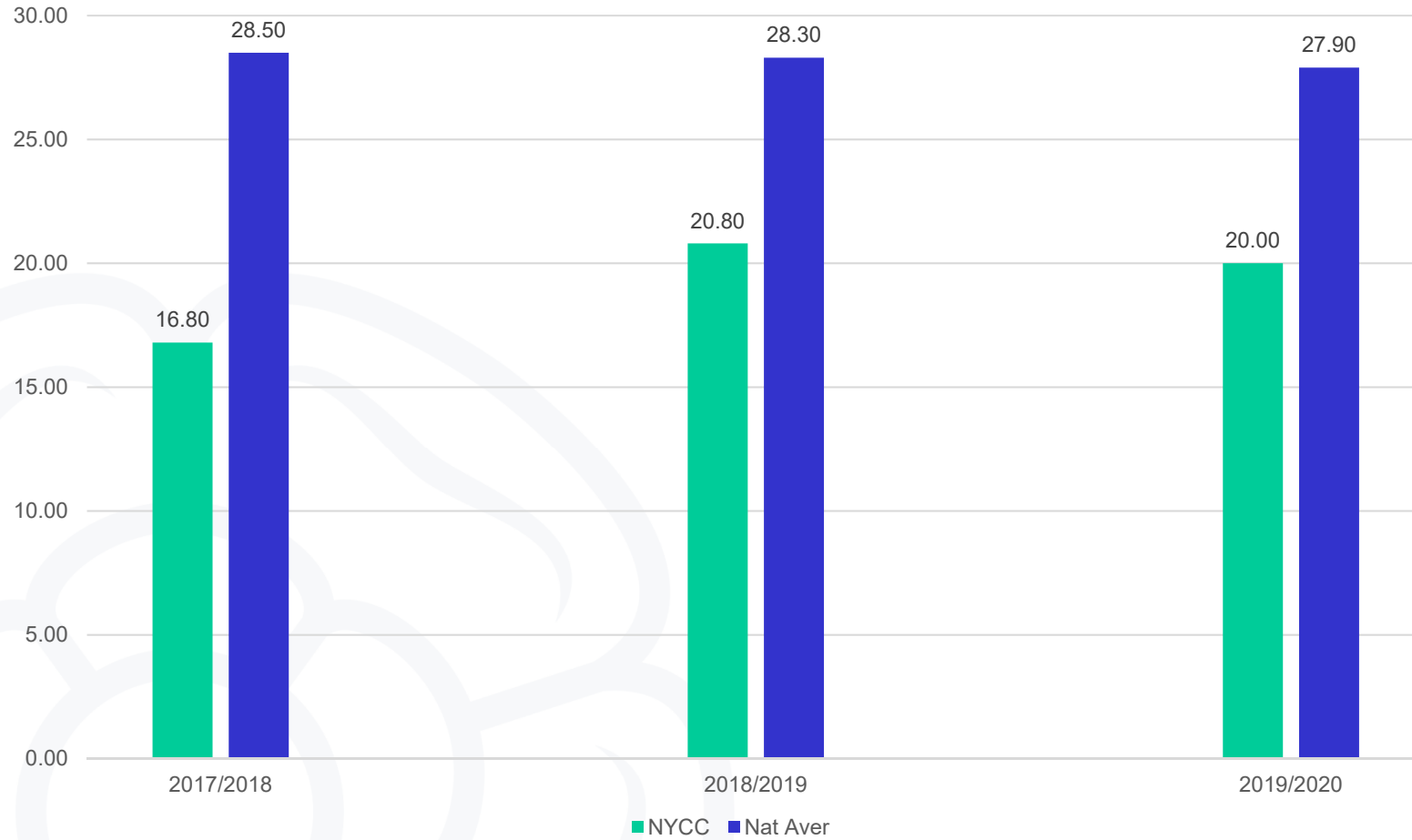


Requests for Direct Payments



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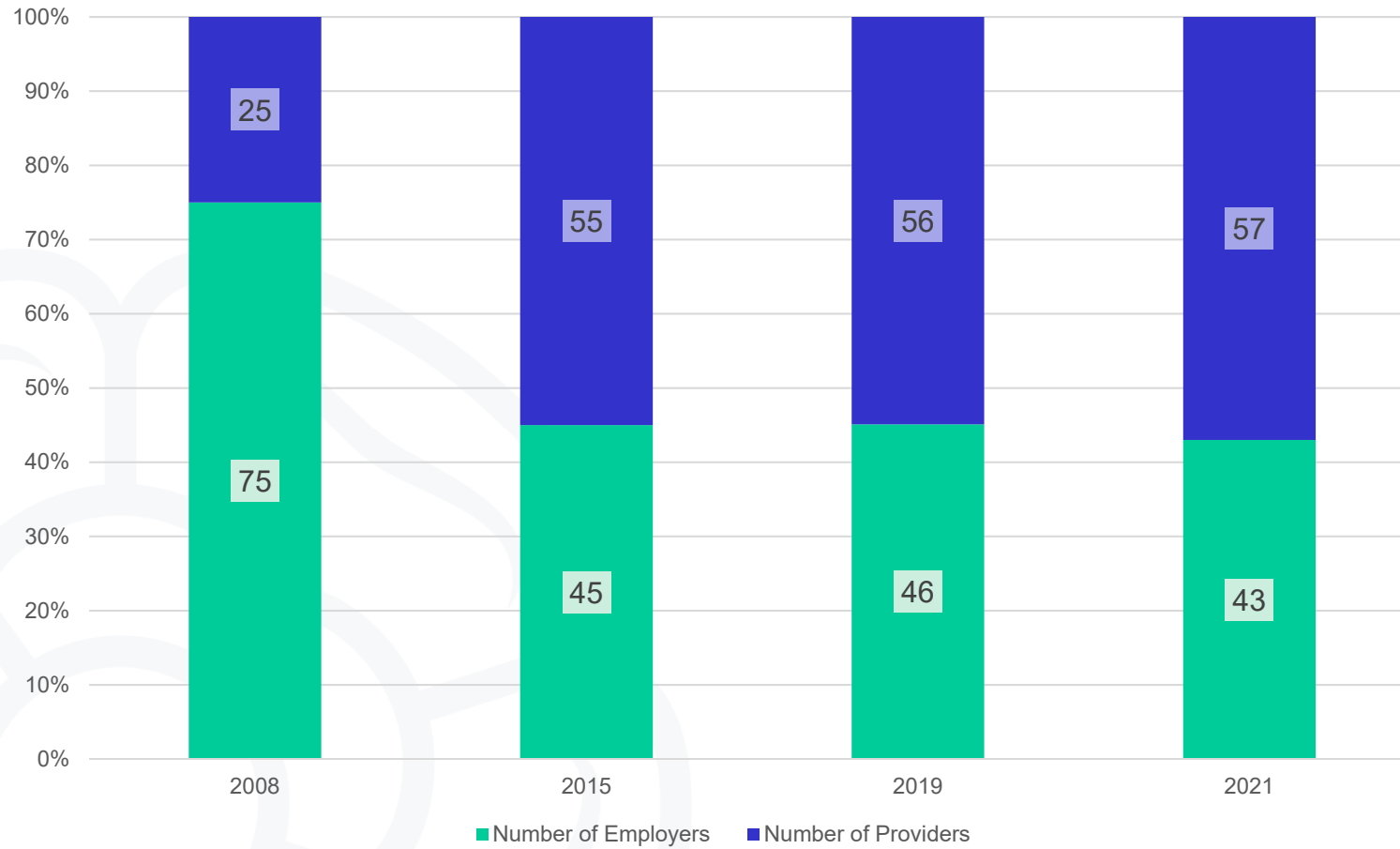
% of people who receive Direct Payments in North Yorkshire



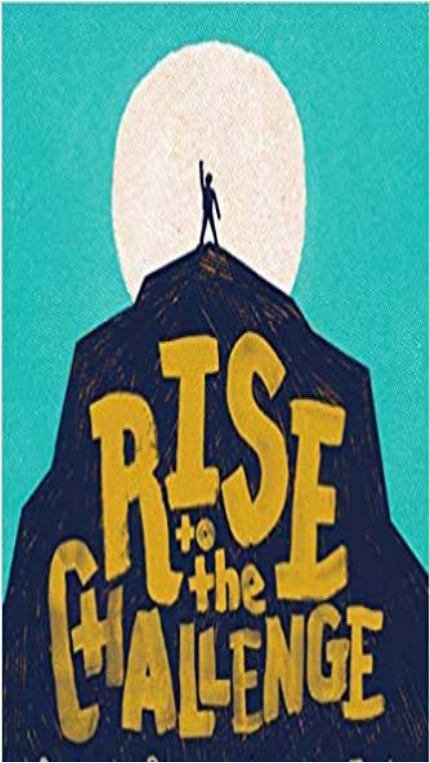
North Yorkshire County Council Direct Payments – March 2021



% of DP Employers v's DP Contracted



How did COVID impact our day to day work?



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How did COVID impact our DP Recipients?



Challenges:

PA support disrupted and day support suspended
Carer pressures

Opportunities:

Develop Skills
Employment/Business opportunities



Solutions:

'A' had completed a short course in wood carving.

Results:

'A' living his life and being fulfilled by his hobby.
Discovering his talent has opened up many new possibilities for him

Challenges:

Day support suspended/reduced
Carer pressures

Opportunities:

Reduce expenditure – one off payment not ongoing
'S' was supported to 'research' what sheds were available and would meet her needs



Solutions:

Garden shed with 'S' has been able to decorate and make 'her own'

Results:

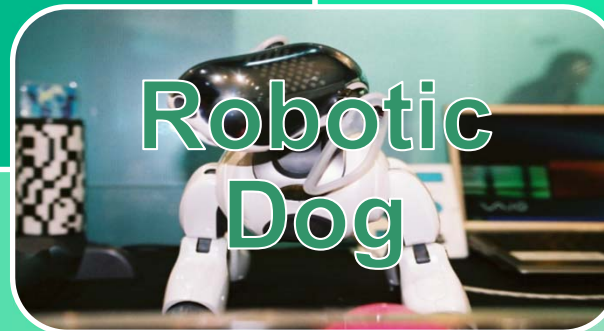
Increased independence and new skills

Challenges:

Chronic anxiety due to pandemic,
impacting on needs
Carer pressures

Opportunities:

Explore how technology can meet
needs
Reduce expenditure – one-off
payment not ongoing



Solutions:

"I've been waiting to let you know how 'M's' new companion - Ivy, the robotic dog is working out. Since her arrival, 'M' has had almost no panic attacks! She is finding companionship and reassurance through Ivy's presence and I think this has been one of the best uses of Direct Payments so far. I'm amazed at how interactive Ivy is - I can see all sorts of benefits for people who live alone, struggle with anxiety etc."

Results:

'M' is living a more independent
life
New coping skills/strategies

Service user feedback

June 2020

As Lockdown began in March, it was a hugely uncertain time for all, but as a carer and a mum it felt daunting. My sons team have gone above and beyond. I've had a call too , to establish how I am. Weve received messages, PPE, information and above all genuine care and concern for our families welfare. NYCC your response has been fabulous and we thank you for looking after us at a time that we know has been chaotic for all. With our thanks. The Ridgewell Family. Kirby Misperton. YO17 6XW

July 2021

We thought you, the way you got D's and our situation, the way you went about every aspect was outstanding. Your manner in person and on the phone, disarming and charming. We felt better after your visits and had hope given by you.

November 2020

Many thanks for that information, Wendy, and thanks again for your help in all these matters. As I said this morning, Gillian and I have found having your support extremely reassuring and helpful.

