



News Release

Contact: Philip Spiers, NHFA.
T: 01865 733000
M: 079 89 383 422
E: philipspiers@nhfa.co.uk

NHFA Care Account Receives Thumbs up in Customer Survey

As insurance companies withdraw from the long-term care insurance market there is little choice remaining for those younger people who wish to make provision for the possibility of funding long-term care in the future. The NHFA carried out a survey on the relatives of its immediate need customers to ascertain their reaction to making provision for their own long-term care, should they need it in the future, by saving through the NHFA **'Future Life Account'**. The majority (68%), having had experience of NHFA immediate need advice, would consider this as their preferred route should they have the capital available. The product features they considered most important in priority order were:

- Easy access to funds
- Good return on investment
- Access to NHFA care support and advice
- The ability to plan ahead

The **'Future Life Account'**. (See separate PDF of literature) This is not an insurance but a savings vehicle linked to a Standard Life investment bond and carrying the valuable benefit of NHFA and Red Arc services in obtaining care support, assessment and advice if and when needed.

The **'Future Life Account'** is a practical, cost effective way of making provision for the future without spending a small fortune or losing control of assets. It's a single premium investment plan with very low set up costs which combines access to the legal and financial expertise of the NHFA with an independent Care Assessment Service from RED ARC and the investment know how provided by Standard Life. The minimum investment is £10,000 into in a range of funds to suit all tastes. Account holders always have complete access to their funds. There is no complicated underwriting. No high entry costs. No high management costs. No fixed or minimum term and, the account can be added to in deposits from as little as £1,000.

Eligibility For Care Assessment Service

The NHFA believes that many care assessments are carried out too late to be able to influence positive outcomes such as independent living at home. It therefore takes a more liberal view on eligibility for its own assessments as follows:

A customer will be eligible for a home visit, assessment and care plan when they are usually unable to perform ONE of the following Activities of Daily Living (“ADLs”) without the physical intervention of another person:

- bathing or showering
- dressing
- transferring positions from a bed to a chair or vice versa
- eating prepared food
- maintaining a reasonable standard of hygiene when toileting
- managing the stairs, or moving from room to room across a level surface.

A diagnosis of a cognitive disorder such as Alzheimer’s will also trigger entitlement irrespective of whether ADLs are being failed.

Overriding these eligibility requirements is Case Manager discretion to commission a home visit where the overall picture demonstrates a clear need for help, for example where someone is part-failing a number of ADLs or there is a stressful situation building for an informal carer/partner.

Public information can be obtained from NHFA freephone 0800 99 88 33 www.nhfa.co.uk

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The NHFA, independent of all care providers, financial institutions and authorities provides free advice and information on obtaining and paying for long term care. NHFA advice is available to all regardless of means and encompasses the many financial and legal issues older people and their families should consider when the need for care arises.

Combines specialist financial advice with the complexities of our care system including local authority assessment and charging procedures, health authority responsibilities, DWP benefits and related legal matters.

Free Publications include Long Term Care Guides and an extensive range of ‘Infosheets’ on common problems including ‘Treatment of Couples’, ‘Treatment of Property’, ‘Deprivation of Assets’, ‘The Legal Framework’, ‘Local Authority Charging Procedures’, ‘NHS Nursing Care Contribution’, ‘Immediate Need Care Fee Payment Plans’ and ‘Issues Surrounding Choice’.

The aim of the NHFA is to enable older people meet the cost of chosen care for life whilst also preserving their original capital and with that their independence, dignity and right of choice.