

Daily Living Activity 10: Making budgeting decisions

Descriptors	Points
a. Can manage complex budgeting decisions unaided.	0
b. Needs prompting or assistance to be able to make complex budgeting decisions.	2
c. Needs prompting or assistance to be able to make simple budgeting decisions.	4
d. Cannot make any] NCom 26 budgeting decisions at all.	6

Legislative Definitions

“Simple budgeting decisions” means decisions involving—

- (a) Calculating the cost of goods; and
- (b) Calculating change required after a purchase.

“Complex budgeting decisions” means decisions involving—

- (a) Calculating household and personal budgets;
- (b) Managing and paying bills; and
- (c) Planning future purchases.

Select Case Law

- [CPIP/3015/2015](#) – Meaning of simple and complex budgeting decisions:

31. ...A “simple budgeting decision” is not a demanding act and requires only the ability to do a single sum or a series of single sums, an understanding of the concept of money and a basic grasp of addition and subtraction. Only those with significant cognitive/intellectual impairment should satisfy the descriptor.

By contrast, the concept of “complex budgeting decisions” measures a wider range of abilities (calculations, management and planning for the future) and therefore a wider range of conditions can cause functional loss....

- [JM v SSWP \[2016\] UKUT 542](#) – someone who has no intellectual impairment but whose depression leads to them avoiding the task of making budgeting decisions altogether, or perhaps to make irrational budgeting decisions, could satisfy descriptor 10b.

- [CPIP/184/2016](#) – Making Decisions about financial issues involves considerations of intellectual capacity and not the physical ability to go and pay the bill – e.g. to the shop.
- [RB v SSWP \(PIP\) \[2016\] UKUT 0393 \(AAC\)](#) - Limitations in making budgeting decisions may flow from physical disabilities alone, but the circumstances in which this will arise are so extreme that they are highly unlikely to be the subject of appeals to tribunals
- [SSWP v LB \(PIP\) \[2016\] UKUT 0530 \(AAC\)](#) - considers that it may be arguable, in certain instances, that someone without a cognitive or intellectual impairment could potentially require assistance and prompting to make budgeting decisions [para 47].
- [DP v SSWP \[2017\] UKUT 156](#) – Age is not a relevant factor. Cognitive and intellectual functions, impulsiveness and the impact of ADHD are relevant factors to consider.
- [UB-v-DfC \(PIP\) \[2020\] NICom 55](#) - Case relating to a claim on behalf of a child under 18 - Making budgeting decisions is not about maturity it is the issue of cognitive ability and intellectual function [para 31].
- [SE v SSWP \(Interim Decision\) \[2021\] UKUT 1 \(AAC\)](#); [SE v SSWP \(Final Decision\) \[2021\] AACR 5](#) - As with Activity 8, based on Judge Ward’s analysis, if you can satisfy the 2nd highest scoring descriptor then you satisfy the highest scoring one also:

29. ...an inability to make any budgeting decision “at all” (thereby satisfying descriptor 10(d)) will be demonstrated by a person who is unable to satisfy descriptor 10(c) because they are unable to make simple budgeting decisions even with prompting or assistance: there is no gap between descriptors 10(c) and 10(d), correctly understood.
- [JR-v-DfC \(PIP\) \[2023\] NICom 1](#) – If a claimant has an Appointee to manage their benefit claim, the tribunal must consider this before refusing points for Activity 10 [paras 32 and 33].