

FACT SHEET

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PERSONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY





The law is proposing that persons with disability have the right to personal assistants.

Personal assistants are persons who support persons with disability in doing everyday activities.



Personal assistants can work for an NGO, a cooperative, a social enterprise or a company. They can also work as self-employed persons.

Personal assistants shall be entitled to receive money for their work. In certain cases (ex. close friend on a temporary basis), they may also support a person without taking payment.



It shall be possible to make rules to make it easier for personal assistants to work as self-employed persons, with a company or with an NGO.



NGOs, cooperatives, social enterprises or companies, when they only offer personal assistant services, can apply to become associations of personal assistants.

These can be run by disabled people themselves or by their family members, as happens in other countries.



The Director for Disability will support persons with disability to be able to explain their needs to personal assistants.

The Director for Disability is the person who leads the Government department that is responsible for the rights of persons with disability.



The Director for Disability will also provide training to personal assistants so they can do their work.



Personal assistants who receive money for supporting persons with disability have to be registered.

Registration means that the personal assistant is part of a list, kept by the Director for Disability.



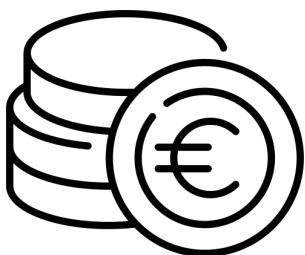
To be added to the Register, personal assistants need to have a certificate, to show that they have not done anything against the law.

If it is found that a personal assistant would not have treated a person with disability well, they can be removed from the Register.



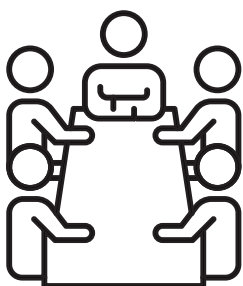
If a person with disability feels that their personal assistants are not supporting them well, they can report to CRPD about it.

CRPD or persons with disability can also ask the Police for help if a personal assistant would be doing something very wrong.



The Government of Malta gives money to Aġenzija Sapport so persons with disability can use it to pay for personal assistance.

Persons with disability can apply to the Director for Disability, so that Aġenzija Sapport gives them money to pay personal assistants.



Decisions on these applications are made by the Personal Budget Assistance Scheme (PBAS) Board.

A board is a group of people who discuss among themselves and with the applicant, to be able to decide about certain things.

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