

<b>Notice of:</b>	Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health
<b>Decision Number:</b>	PH9/2018
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Karen Smith, Director of Adult Services
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	12 February 2018

## ADULT SOCIAL CARE FEES AND CHARGES 2018/19

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the proposed Adult Social Care Fees and Charges 2018/19.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree the proposed changes to the charging arrangements as detailed in the accompanying fees and charges schedules at Appendix A with effect from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To recognise the impact of inflationary pressures, such as the continued implementation of the National Living Wage, on the cost of services. To allow care and support services to continue to be provided in the context of reducing levels of government funding. To continue to comply with the requirements of the Care Act 2014 and accompanying guidance issued by the Department of Health.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

The alternative is not to increase fees and charges which would result in no additional income to cover the increased costs of service provision such as the increase in the national living wage. This will require savings to be identified in other areas of the budget.

**4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

**5.0 Background Information**

5.1 Councils are given discretionary powers to charge adult recipients of residential and non-residential social care services under the Care Act 2014. The Council currently charges service users to generate income to help maintain the provision of services. In the case of non-residential services such as day care and care at home, a financial assessment is undertaken to determine the service user’s level of contribution. Other services such as transport are subject to a flat rate charge and service users are expected to contribute to the cost of providing the service, regardless of their level of income.

5.2 Adult Social Care fees and charges for residential care, non-residential care and other services have been reviewed in line with the requirements of the Care Act 2014 and accompanying government guidance. The cost of providing services in 2018/19 will increase as a result of the continued implementation of the national living wage and other inflationary pressures. These cost increases must be managed within the context of cash limited budget and reduced levels of central government funding.

5.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**5.4 List of Appendices:**

Appendix A: Adult Social Care Fees and Charges 2018/19

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 The Council is adjusting its charges with due regard to the requirements of the Care Act 2014, Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014 and the Department of Health statutory guidance.

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None.

## **8.0 Equalities considerations:**

- 8.1 There is a higher take up of adult social care services by older people and people with a disability because these groups are more likely to need help with personal care as a result of ill-health, frailty, long term conditions, mental health issues and be at risk of physical injury. As a result they are dependent upon care and support to help meet their basic personal care needs and maintain their independence.
- 8.2 Therefore the proposals will disproportionately impact on older people, in particular older women who are more likely to need care as a result of a longer life expectancy and disabled groups. A full equality assessment has been undertaken.

## **9.0 Financial considerations:**

- 9.1 The proposed changes to the current non-residential charging arrangements are estimated to generate additional income of £39k in the next financial year.
- 9.2 It is estimated that as result of the 3.0% increase in the state pension from 1st April 2018, contributions towards the costs of residential care will increase by approximately £276k ( $£10.222m * 3.0% * 90%$  collection rate). Contributions towards the costs of residential care are determined by government set guidelines and subject to a financial assessment.
- 9.3 In total, the estimated additional income from the increases outlined above is £315k.

## **10.0 Risk management considerations:**

- 10.1 There is a risk that people will not pay the increased contributions towards the cost of their services or that they will cancel their support.

## **11.0 Ethical considerations:**

- 11.1 None.

## **12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

- 12.1 The proposals form part of the Council's overall 2018/19 budget proposals which are subject to an ongoing consultation exercise.

## **13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 Care Act 2014  
Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations  
Care and Support Statutory Guidance issued under the Care Act 2014

**14.0 Key decision information:**

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

**15.0 Call-in information:**

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE**

**16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed:

Date approved:

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1 None.

**18.0 Executive decision:**

18.1 The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendation as outlined above namely:

To agree the proposed changes to the charging arrangements as detailed in the accompanying fees and charges schedules at Appendix A with effect from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

**18.2 Date of Decision:**

12 February 2018

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

To recognise the impact of inflationary pressures, such as the continued implementation of the National Living Wage, on the cost of services. To allow care and support services to continue to be provided in the context of reducing levels of government funding. To continue to comply with the requirements of the Care Act 2014 and accompanying guidance issued by the Department of Health.

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

12 February 2018

**20.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

20.1

**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes:**

22.1