

Notice of:	Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health
Decision Number:	PH15/2019
Relevant Officer:	Karen Smith, Director of Adult Services
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health
Date of Decision:	15 February 2019

ADULT SOCIAL CARE FEES AND CHARGES 2019/20

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the 2019/20 proposed fees and charges for Adult Social Care services as detailed in the accompanying fees and charges schedules.

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 2019 to 31 March 2020.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1
- To recognise the increasing cost of providing services as a result of increases in the National Living Wage, the continued implementation of an automatic pension enrolment scheme and other inflationary factors.
 - To ensure the continued generation of income from assessed charges in order to support the provision of non-residential and residential care services in the context of reduced government funding.
 - To continue to comply with the requirements of the Care Act 2014 and the statutory guidance issued by the Department of Health and Social Care.

- 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:

To not increase assessed charges for services -

If assessed charges are not increased in line with pay and non-pay pressures, then alternative sources of income will need to be identified or alternative savings proposed in order to ensure the Council can achieve a balanced budget. The requirement to find alternative savings may impact on the level and range of services currently provided.

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 2019/20 will increase as a result of the continued implementation of the National Living Wage, automatic pension enrolment and other inflationary pressures. These cost increases must be managed within the context of a 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 Schedules 2019/20

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 Charges are being adjusted with due regard to the requirements of the Care Act 2014, the Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014 and the Department of Health and Social Care's statutory guidance.

7.0 Human resources considerations:

7.1 Not applicable.

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 and respite charging arrangements are estimated to generate additional income of £72,800 in the next financial year. This will offset increases in the costs of providing the service and help maintain the provision of services

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 may cancel their care.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 Not applicable.

12.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

12.1 The proposals form part of the Council's overall budget 2019/20 budget proposals which are subject to an ongoing consultation exercise.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 Care and Support 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:

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 2019 to 31 March 2020.

19.0 Date of Decision:

19.1 15 February 2019

20.0 Reason(s) for decision:

20.1 To recognise the increasing cost of providing services as a result of increases in the National Living Wage, the continued implementation of an automatic pension enrolment scheme and other inflationary factors.

To ensure the continued generation of income from assessed charges in order to support the provision of non-residential and residential care services in the context of reduced government funding.

To continue to comply with the requirements of the Care Act 2014 and the statutory guidance issued by the Department of Health and Social Care.

21.0 Date Decision published:

21.1 15 February 2019

22.0 Executive Members in attendance:

22.1

23.0 Call-in:

23.1

24.0 Notes:

24.1