

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**Housing and Health Committee****25 January 2017****Annual Scheme of Charges for Community Care Services****Report by Director (Housing and Social Work)****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report notes the different ways in which community care services are charged for within Housing and Community Care. Housing and Health Committee are asked to approve the proposed changes to charges as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 For community care services there are three distinct charging arrangements in operation within Perth and Kinross Council which are based on a combination of legislative responsibilities, national guidance and local guidance:
- Non-residential care services received from 1 February 2014 (following approval of the Contributions Policy, Report No. 13/113)
 - Non-residential care services received prior to 1 February 2014 subject to transitional protection
 - Residential care services
- 1.2 A client's assessing worker, e.g. their Social Worker, will discuss all services and their costs with the client and/or their family at the time of their outcome focused care assessment. At this stage, the client will be advised of the full cost of the service whilst being offered the opportunity and encouraged to complete a financial assessment to determine how much of the full cost they will be asked to pay. An Assessment Officer will then complete a financial assessment with the client and/or their representative and advise of their assessed contribution. This will be estimated at the time of the assessment, and confirmed in writing following authorisation.
- 1.3 Details of all current charging regimes can be found at www.pkc.gov.uk/carecharges
- 1.4 Perth and Kinross Council will adopt charges agreed under the Scotland Excel Framework for the following services:
- Independent sector residential care
 - Independent sector nursing care
 - Community frozen meals service

- 1.5 For independent residential and nursing care, Perth and Kinross Council will only agree to a higher rate than that agreed under the Scotland Excel Framework for specialised homes such as those for learning disabilities and mental health clients.
- 1.6 The cost of staff meals provided by Perth and Kinross Council at day centres and residential homes is increased annually from 1 April by the UK Consumer Prices Index (CPI) inflation rate as at the preceding September.
- 1.7 All income generated by charges contributes to service budgets and ensures the continued development and delivery of high quality services.

2 PROPOSALS

2.1 Change to the Local Authority Residential Care Home Weekly Charge

It is proposed to increase the weekly charge levied for Perth and Kinross Council run care homes, Beechgrove House in Perth City, Dalweem in Aberfeldy and Parkdale in Auchterarder, from £829.56 to £884.42 per week from 1 April 2017. This charge is based on the actual cost of running the care homes, including overheads and capital charges, whilst taking account of anticipated occupancy levels; which is the methodology that has been used for the calculation of this weekly charge for many years. It is also consistent with the Council's Financial Regulations which require full cost recovery of actual running costs; and is subject to a financial assessment of an individual's ability to pay.

Residents who are aged 65 or over and have been assessed as requiring residential care will be entitled to a Free Personal Care payment. The Scottish Government sets this rate annually; the 2016/17 rate was £171 per week. Perth & Kinross Council will adopt the 2017/18 rate once it has been approved by the Scottish Government.

2.2 Change to Occupational Therapy Equipment Fitting Charge

Following customer feedback, it is proposed to amend the cost of the installation of occupational therapy equipment to a standard £30.00 per item. This is a reduction from £178.00 for handrails and bannisters and an increase from £27.56 for all other equipment.

There is an online self-assessment tool which allows Perth and Kinross residents to review solutions available for occupational therapy aids and adaptations. This can be found at www.abilityoptionperth.org.uk

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 There are three separate and distinct charging arrangements in operation for community care services within Perth and Kinross. Further details of the charging regimes are available online at www.pkc.gov.uk/carecharges. This report provides a summary of the proposed changes to charges for 2017/18.

3.2 Housing and Health Committee are asked to approve the proposed changes to charges as set out in section 2 of the report and within the summary at Appendix 1.

Author

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Fiona Low	Business and Resources Team Leader	hcccommitteereports@pkc.gov.uk 01738 475000

Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Bill Atkinson	Director (Housing & Social Work)	12 January 2017

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	None
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Strategic Environmental Assessment	None
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	None
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

Corporate Plan

- 1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2013-2018 lays out five outcome focussed strategic objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. They are as follows:
- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
 - (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
 - (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
 - (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
 - (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

This report relates to (iii) and (iv).

2. Resource Implications

Financial

- 2.1 The impact of the changes to 2017/18 charges identified in this report has been incorporated into the Service's revenue budget submission.

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

This section should reflect that the proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

- (i) Assessed as **relevant** and the following positive outcomes expected following implementation: The services that are the focus of this report will have a positive impact on people's wellbeing across a varied range of vulnerable client groups.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were considered in the preparation of this report:-

- Scrutiny Review, Charging for Services 2014 (Report No. 16/65)
- Implementation of the Recommendation from the Fifth Scrutiny Review – Charging for Council Services (Report No. 16/177)
- Fifth Scrutiny Review: Charging for Council Services Update Report (Report No. 16/573)

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Proposed Changes to Charges 2017-2018

APPENDIX 1

Proposed changes to charges 2017-2018

Care and Support Services	Current	Proposed
Local Authority Residential Care	£829.56 per week	£884.82 per week
Occupational Therapy Equipment	Current	Proposed
Fitting of Equipment	£178.00 for handrails and bannisters £27.56 for all other equipment	£30.00 per item
Staff Meals	Current	Proposed
Breakfast	£1.48	£1.49
Lunch	£2.91	£2.94
Supper	£1.18	£1.19
Snack	£0.79	£0.80

Further information on community care charges can be found at www.pkc.gov.uk/carecharges