

SPECIAL ANGUS COUNCIL – 15 FEBRUARY 2018

REVIEW OF SUPPORT AND CARE AND RESIDENTIAL FEES 2018/19

REPORT BY VICKY IRONS, CHIEF OFFICER, ANGUS IJB

ABSTRACT

This report sets out proposals to revise Support and Care and Residential fees for services provided by Angus Council with effect from April 2018.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Angus Council:-

1. Approves the proposed increase in Support and Care fees as set out at 4.1 and 4.2 and the introduction of a charge for telecare service provision with effect from April 2018.
2. Approves the proposed changes in the taper applied to excess income as set out at 4.3. and with effect from April 2018.
3. Notes the continued adoption during 2018/19 of COSLA guidance regarding “income disregards” for the purposes of assessing client contributions
4. Note the work being undertaken to develop charging proposals regarding Compulsory Treatment Orders (CTOs), Adaptation Services and for Community Equipment and to support associated proposals, once fully developed, being brought forward for consideration in the future.
5. Approves the proposed residential charges as set out at 4.6 with effect from April 2018.

2. ALIGNMENT TO NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OUTCOMES

This report contributes to the following local outcomes:-

- “Resources are used effectively and efficiently in the provision of health and social care services”.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 While the responsibility for the operational delivery of Adult Services is devolved to Angus Health and Social Care Partnership (effective April 2016), the formal authority to charge for social work services remains with Angus Council. On that basis, Angus Council needs to formally approve planned amendments to charges as proposed by Angus Health and Social Care Partnership. Angus Health and Social Care Partnership have now considered charging arrangements for 2018/19 in the context of the overall financial position of the Partnership. Previous recommendations were set out in papers 52/17, 207/17 and 263/17.

In February 2018, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership is scheduled to agree a budget settlement with Angus Council to support the delivery of Adult Services. Due to the challenging circumstances facing both Angus Council and Angus Health & Social Care partnership, the settlement requires the Partnership to develop a revised response to charging related issues. The Partnership has previously agreed that it would review charging issues (see Angus IJB report 6/18) and this paper summarises the Partnership's current proposals for 2018/19 and provides a general update regarding charging issues.

The overall intention is to consider instances where charges can be amended to increase income to support the ongoing delivery of the current volume of social work adult services, taking into account increased demands and costs, without undue detriment to service users and without destabilising front line services and service uptake.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 SUPPORT AND CARE FEES

Angus Council charges for a range of non-residential services provided in-house by Angus Council. Some of these fees are charged against an individual's calculated budget. These charges were reviewed in August 2017 having previously remained static since 2014/15. In August 2017, it was agreed to a two-step increase in fees (October 2017 and April 2018) to address overall inflationary impacts since 2014/15.

After the October 2017 increase, it has been estimated that the following uplifts need to apply to complete the second of the previously agreed two-steps:-

2017/18 – 1.37%
2018/19 – 2.00% (est.)

On that basis it is proposed to increase the rates for relevant Support and Care fees from April 2018 by 3.4% (being the cumulative impact of the 2018/19 inflationary impact on top of the 2017/18 uplift).

Should the 2018/19 estimated uplift of 2% be an understatement, then this will be remedied in future years.

The effect on individual fees is shown in appendix 1. The net financial benefit is limited and will be constrained by the current contributions policy. It is important to recognise the cumulative effect over a number of years of any failure to inflation link costs.

The above recommendation takes into account pay inflation in 2017/18 and assumed pay inflation for 2018/19.

4.2 SUPPORT AND CARE FEES (FLAT RATE FEES)

In addition to the fees described at 4.1, charged against an individual's personal budget, a small number of fees are charged at a flat rate irrespective of personal budgets. These fees include Community Meal and Community Alarm charges.

It is now proposed to increase these flat rate fees as follows:-

| Service | 2017/18 Charge (£) | Proposed 2018/19 Charge (£) | %age Increase |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Community Alarm | £4.75/week | £4.75/week | no change |
| Community Meal (Lunchtime) | £3.30/day | £3.45/day | 4.5% |
| Community Meal (Evening) | £2.80/day | £2.90/day | 3.6% |

The above recommendations take into account the current financial support of the Community Meals service and rates of inflation associated with service delivery and the proposal regarding telecare set out below.

The increased income of c£30k per annum associated with these changes in charges will help offset the increased costs associated with service delivery.

From 2018/19, it is now proposed to develop the Support and Care fees charging arrangements to introduce a discrete weekly charge for provision of telecare equipment. This charge will be £1/per week for any telecare package (which can include a combination of monitors, sensors, detectors and is over and above Community Alarm services and smoke alarms/ heat detectors provided alongside Community Alarm). There are currently about 400 users of telecare services within Angus and it is felt this activity has the potential to increase in future and the early introduction of a charge will help to support the future management of these services.

| Service | 2017/18 Charge (£) | Proposed 2018/19 Charge (£) | %age Increase |
|----------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Telecare | N/A | £1/week | N/A |

The increased income of c£20k per annum associated with the introduction of telecare charges will help offset the costs associated with service delivery. It is proposed that the charge will be introduced from about October 2018 once procedures have been reviewed and revised and service agreements reviewed to take into account the new proposals. All service users will receive notice once an implementation date for charging is finalised.

4.3 INCREASES IN THE TAPER APPLIED TO EXCESS INCOME

It is proposed to increase the taper that applies to excess income from 70% to 75%. This may mean some supported people may pay more for services depending on their incomes and the support they receive (see example at appendix 2).

The above recommendation takes into account the overall need to support service delivery. The financial benefit of these changes are estimated at £50k per annum from April 2018.

4.4 INCOME DISREGARDS

On an annual basis, COSLA make recommendations regarding income disregard levels. Previously Angus Council has implemented these recommendations for under 60s and over 60s. It is recommended that Angus Council continues to adopt the income disregards guidance as set out by COSLA for 2018/19.

There will be no financial benefit from these changes.

4.5 FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Policy and Resources Committee paper 263/17 set out proposals to further consider charging proposals. Some of these proposals are now at the point of seeking approval while others remain under development as follows:-

4.5.1 Compulsory Treatment Orders

In paper 263/1, it was noted that charges for those subject to Compulsory Treatment Orders (CTOs) were being reviewed. Generally COSLA guidance suggests service users subject to a CTO should not be charged for services relating to their mental health. However, in order to ensure an equitable approach is maintained within the charging process, this guidance is being reviewed locally and revised charging proposals may be brought forward in future.

4.5.2 Adaptation Services

Angus HSCP is interested in developing proposals to introduce a charging framework for adaptations. The intention was to develop this proposal with the current major and minor adaptations provider (Angus Care & Repair). Those discussions have not advanced at the pace originally envisage. Angus HSCP continues to look at ways of developing a charging proposal for these services.

4.5.3 Community Equipment

Angus HSCP remains interested in developing discussions around creating a charging framework for Community Equipment. This was described in paper 263/17 (Policy & Resources). The current intention is that Angus HSCP continues to explore this in conjunction with Dundee HSCP with whom we share a Community Equipment service.

4.5.4 Contributions Policy

Angus Council currently operates a contributions policy for Support and Care at Home services. That policy has developed over a number of years. Work is ongoing to consolidate the current policy and associated guidance. This output of this process, itself not intended to change the overall policy, will be available to share in early 2018/19.

4.6 RESIDENTIAL FEES

On an annual basis, rates need to be agreed for weekly charges associated with in house residential services. Changes in the cost of service delivery are generally linked to Angus Council pay uplifts. For 2018/19, these pay uplifts are not currently agreed but are estimated to increase by an average of 2%. It is therefore proposed to increase the rates charged by 2% effective from April 2018.

| Category | Homes | 2017/18 Rates per Week | 2018/19 Rates per Week |
|---|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Residential Care (e.g. Older People, Learning Disability) | Kinloch, Beech Hill, Seaton Grove, The Gables | £584.71 | £596 |
| Residential care (High Dependency Units) | Kinloch, Beech Hill, Seaton Grove | £998.05 | £1018 |

However it should be noted that the rate charged for externally provided residential care is currently marginally below that for in house residential services. Once the rates for externally provided residential care is confirmed, dependent on resolution of issues associated with the National Care Home Contract, then it is the intention for in house residential care to be charged at the same rate as externally provided residential care for 2018/19 and in the future.

The Council will be aware (Policy and Resources Committee paper 386/17 "Provision of Interim Respite Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities") of interim solutions for the provision of respite care for Adults with Learning Disabilities in Angus. While this service provision does not fit into the above categories for residential care, 2018/19 charges will be derived using the recognised 'Charging for Residential Care' guidance and in a manner consistent with the above charges and uplifted by the same inflationary factor.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The relevant financial impact of the changes are described in the sections above. As noted at 3.1, assumptions regarding income are reflected in the overall proposed budget settlement between Angus Council and Angus Health and Social Care Partnership.

6. RISKS

There are risks that the increase or introduction of charges could have a detrimental effect on service uptake. For example, there is a potentially increased risk that where an individual refuses to pay for the delivery cost of equipment that their need for personal care support will increase. This type of risk is already managed within operational services and the impact of any change would be closely monitored.

7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are equality implications arising from this report and an Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached at appendix 3.

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February 2018

APPENDIX 1 – REVISIONS TO SUPPORT AND CARE FEES

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| Supplier Name | Type of Support | Per (Describe) | Existing Rates | Proposed Rates |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Angus Council | Personal Care Services | Hour | £22.99 | £23.77 |
| Angus Council | Demential Daycare (Older People) | per session (5 hours) | £85.70 | £88.61 |
| Angus Council | Mainstream Daycare (Seaton Grove) | per session (5 hours) | £54.31 | £56.15 |
| Angus Council | Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities) | HOUR (Group Support) | £5.07 | £5.24 |
| Angus Council | Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities) | HOUR (Close support) | £10.13 | £10.48 |
| Angus Council | Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities) | HOUR (Individual Support) | £30.40 | £31.43 |
| Angus Council | Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities) | HOUR (2:1 Support) | £60.80 | £62.87 |
| Angus Council | College Support (Learning Disabilities) | HOUR (Group Support) | £4.84 | £5.00 |
| Angus Council | College Support (Learning Disabilities) | HOUR (Close support) | £9.68 | £10.01 |
| Angus Council | College Support (Learning Disabilities) | HOUR (Individual Support) | £29.04 | £30.03 |
| Angus Council | Attendance at Glenloch Centre Forfar | per session (2 hours + travel) | £20.26 | £20.95 |

Based on uplift of 3.4%
Effective from 1st April 2018

Appendix 2

Using an example where a supported person has an assessed income of £300 per week and if, after allowing for disregarded income (or fully retained income) there is a balance of £40 of available income:-

Currently a taper of 70% is applied to this income resulting in a required contribution of up to £28.00 per week (being 70% of the £40).

It is now proposed that, with a taper of 75%, the required contribution would rise to up to £30.00 per week. It remains the case that no contribution is required where a supported person's income is below the disregarded income level (or fully retained income level) as only income available after disregarded income (or fully retained income) is allowed for in the calculations. All supported people are offered a welfare benefits check before any contribution is calculated.

Angus Council follows the guidance provided by COSLA (COSLA National Strategy & Guidance – Charges Applying to Non residential Social Care Services) in defining disregarded income which includes income such as child benefits, mobility benefits and war widow's pensions.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BACKGROUND

| | |
|--|---|
| Date of Assessment: 30/01/18 | Report Number: 53/18 |
| Title of document being assessed: | REVIEW OF SUPPORT AND CARE AND RESIDENTIAL FEES 2018/19 |
| <p>1. This is a new policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed. (If Yes please check box) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>This is a new budget saving proposal (If Yes please check box) <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>This is an existing policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed? (If Yes please check box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>This is an existing budget saving proposal being reviewed (If Yes please check box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> |
| <p>2. Please give details of the Lead Officer and the group responsible for considering the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)</p> | <p>George Bowie, Head of Community Health and Care Services / Angus HSCP Charging Group</p> |
| <p>3. Please give a brief description of the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed, including its aims and objectives, actions and processes.</p> | |
| <p>This report sets out proposals to revise Support and Care and residential fees for services provided by Angus Council with effect from 1st April 2018.</p> | |
| <p>4. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, procedure, strategy or practice and who are the intended beneficiaries?</p> | |
| <p>The intended outcomes of the changes to Support and care and Residential fees is to ensure that resources available to the partnership are allocated fairly and consistent with assessment and financial assessment processes. Recovering resources from people who use services in line with the requirements of the Social Work Scotland Act 1968 ensures that the overall budget available to the partnership progresses delegated functions</p> | |
| <p>5. Has any local consultation, improvement or research with protected characteristic communities informed the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being EQIA assessed here? No</p> | |
| <p>If Yes, please give details.</p> | |

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EQIA) - RELEVANCE SCREENING

1. Has the proposal already been assessed via an EQIA process for its impact on ALL of the protected characteristics of: age; disability; gender; gender re-assignment; pregnancy/maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion and belief; and sexual orientation?

No

Please answer the 1a and 1b no questions below.

1 a. Does the proposal have a potential to impact in ANY way on the public and/or service users holding any of the protected characteristics of age; disability; gender; gender re-assignment; pregnancy/maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion and belief; and sexual orientation? This applies to service users of not only NHS Tayside and Angus Council, but also the 3rd sector.

Yes - Proceed to the Full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA).

No - please state why not (specify which evidence was considered and what it says)?

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

1 b. Does the proposal have a potential to impact in ANY way on employees holding any of the protected characteristics of age; disability; gender; gender re-assignment; pregnancy/maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion and belief; and sexual orientation? This applies to employees of not only NHS Tayside and Angus Council, but also the 3rd sector.

Yes - Proceed to the Full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA).

No - please state why not (specify which evidence was considered and what it says)?

FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EQIA)

Step 1.

Is there any reason to believe the proposal could affect people differently due to their protected characteristic? Using evidence (e.g. statistics, literature, consultation results, etc.), justify whether yes or no. If yes, specify whether impact is likely to be positive or negative and what actions will be taken to mitigate against the undesired impact of a negative discrimination. When considering impact, please consider impact on: health related behaviour; social environment; physical environment; and access to & quality of services of NHS Tayside, Angus Council or 3rd sector social justice.

Reference is made to the AHSCP equalities evidence base

1a. Impact on the public and/or service users holding the Protected Characteristics:

| | POSITIVE IMPACT | NEGATIVE IMPACT | Intended mitigating actions against the b) Negative Discrimination |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| AGE | | √ | Review of RAS and calculated budgets through SDS project. Developing the fair cost of care model through Help to Live at Home |
| GENDER | | | |
| DISABILITY | | √ | |
| ETHNICITY/ RACE | | | |
| SEXUAL ORIENTATION | | | |
| RELIGION/ BELIEF | | | |
| GENDER REASSIGNMENT | | | |
| PREGNANCY/ MATERNITY | | | |
| OTHER: CARERS OF OLDER AND/OR DISABLED PEOPLE | | √ | |

(Although carers are not considered as a PC in itself, they are protected by the Equality Act 2010 from “discrimination by association” with the PCs of age and disability)

1b. Impact on employees holding the Protected Characteristics: N/A

| | POSITIVE IMPACT | NEGATIVE IMPACT | Intended mitigating actions against the b) Negative Discrimination |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| AGE | | | |
| GENDER | | | |
| DISABILITY | | | |
| ETHNICITY/ RACE | | | |
| SEXUAL ORIENTATION | | | |
| RELIGION/ BELIEF | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| GENDER REASSIGNMENT | | | |
| MARRIAGE/CIVIL PARTNERSHIP | | | |
| PREGNANCY/MATERNITY | | | |
| OTHER: CARERS OF OLDER AND/OR DISABLED PEOPLE | | | |

(Although carers are not considered as a PC in itself, they are protected by the Equality Act 2010 from “discrimination by association” with the PCs of age and disability)

1c. Does the proposal promote good relations between any of the Protected Characteristics?

YES

NO

NOT SURE

Specify further (e.g. between which of the PCs, and in what way, or why not or not sure)

No effect

1d. What steps will you take to collect the Equality Monitoring information needed to monitor impact of this proposal on PCs, and when will you do this?

The uptake of services and supports by age and for those with disability is routinely collected

Step 2

Where will the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) be published?

With the report to which it refers in Angus Council committee papers and with IJB reports on the internet

CONTACT INFORMATION

| | |
|--|---|
| Name of service or Partnership: | Angus Health and Social Care Partnership |
|--|---|

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Type of Document | |
| Human Resource Policy | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| General Policy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Strategy/Service | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Change Papers/Local Procedure | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guidelines and Protocols | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify): | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Manager Responsible | Author Responsible |
|--|--|
| Name: George Bowie | Name: Vivienne Davidson |
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|--|
| Date of Next Policy Review: Not known |
|--|

For additional information and advice please contact:
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