

ANGUS COUNCIL – 18 FEBRUARY 2016

REVIEW OF NON-RESIDENTIAL FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR, PEOPLE

ABSTRACT

This report sets out proposals to amend non-residential contribution rates for the financial year 2015-16.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Angus Council:

- (i) Approves the increase in the charge for dispersed community alarm from £4.50 to £4.75 per week;
- (ii) Agrees no increase to the charge for community meals which will remain at £2.80;
- (iii) Agrees that Income disregards for persons aged under 60 remain unchanged at £123.00 for a single person and £188.00 for a couple per week.
- (iv) Approves the increase in Income disregards for persons aged 60 or over from £177.00 for a single person to £180.55 and for a couple from £269.00 to £275.64 per week.
- (v) Notes that a further report will be submitted with the proposed residential and nursing home rates once the national contract has been agreed.

The income disregards have been calculated using a formula provided by COSLA for past up-ratings.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013 - 2016:

- The health of the Angus population is improved;
- A good quality of life is enjoyed by all in Angus;
- Carers are supported to undertake their caring role

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Reference is made to Committee Report 57/15 Review of Non-Residential Fees and Charges, which extended the time period for the completion of SDS assessments for existing service users to 31 March 2016. Following this date all service users will have received an SDS assessment and will have been directed towards the four SDS options. As a result they will also move from the charging policy to the contributions policy and the current charging policy will end for those that currently remain on it.

4. PROPOSAL

4.1 It is proposed that that from 11 April 2016 the flat rate i.e. community alarm and community meals are treated as follows:

- Community alarm to increase from £4.50 to £4.75 per week.
- Community meals to remain at £2.80 per week
- Income disregards for persons aged under 60 remain unchanged at £123.00 for a single person and £188.00 for a couple per week.
- Income disregards for persons aged 60 or over increase from £177.00 for a single person to £180.55 and for a couple from £269.00 to £275.64 per week.

4.2 The estimated additional income from the proposed increase in the community alarm is £31,000.

4.3 From April 2016 all service users assessed under SDS will make a contribution to their package of care based on their ability to pay. Supported people are financially assessed to determine any contribution they may be able to make towards the cost of their individual package of support and care, excluding free personal care for those aged 65 or over.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Based on the proposed increase in the flat rate charge for community alarm it is estimated that additional income of £31,000 will be generated.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

7. RISKS

There is a risk that increasing the charge for community alarm might lead to fewer people requesting this service and a resulting reduction in income from this service.

8. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are equality implications arising from this report and an Equality Impact Assessment has been completed.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- 57/15 Review of Non-Residential Fees and Charges

Author Reference: George Bowie, Head of Adult Services (PEOPLE@angus.gov.uk)

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Department: People

What is the proposed budget saving? (Use same wording as in RB6).

Review of non-residential fees and contributions

Screening Process

Does the proposed saving involve or have consequences for the people the council serves or employs?

Yes No

If yes, proceed to Step 1 of the Full Equality Impact Assessment on page 2.

If No, please state why not.

If no, the budget saving is not relevant and no further action is required.

Impact Assessment Carried Out By: _____

Date: _____

Please forward to Doreen Phillips (PhillipsD@angus.gov.uk)

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FULL ASSESSMENT

Step 1

What data/research is available to assess the likely impact of the proposed saving?

We hold data on all service users that have a community alarm. This change will mean that those in receipt of community alarm will pay an additional £0.25 per week for the service.

Step 2

Is there any reason to believe the proposal could affect people differently due to their protected characteristic i.e. age; disability; gender; gender re-assignment; pregnancy/maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion and belief; and sexual orientation? Please **place a cross** in each box that applies, and give details alongside.

- Age
- Disability
- Gender
- Gender Re-assignment
- Pregnancy/maternity
- Marriage and civil Partnership
- Race
- Religion and belief
- Sexual orientation

Step 3

Is there evidence to suggest that any part of the proposed saving could unlawfully discriminate against people?

Yes No

If Yes, please give details.

Step 4

Can the proposed saving be seen to favour one section of the community?

Yes No

or deny opportunities to another?

Yes No

If Yes, please give details.

Step 5

Does the proposed saving advance equality?

Yes No

Or restrict equality?

Yes No

If Yes, please give details.

Step 6

Based on the work you have done, rate the level of impact for any of the equality groups of the proposed saving.

High Medium Low Unknown

Step 7

If during **Steps 2 - 5** there has been an adverse impact identified, consider if any adverse impact can be justified.

Yes No

Please give details.

The increase in the charge for community alarm will bring in additional income to Angus Council which will be used to provide services for vulnerable people.

Impact Assessment Carried Out By: George Meechan

Date: 03/02/16

Please forward to Doreen Phillips (PhillipsD@angus.gov.uk)