

ANGUS COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH COMMITTEE – 08 APRIL 2014

REVIEW OF FEES AND ADDITIONAL SERVICE CHARGES FOR CARE HOMES

REPORT BY HEAD OF QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE

ABSTRACT

This report advises committee of the revised fees and additional service charges for care homes for 2014-15, the current non-standard care home rates and the up-rated free personal and nursing care rates.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Social Work and Health Committee:

- (i) approves the revised standard fees and additional service charges for care homes
- (ii) notes the up-rated free personal and nursing care rates
- (iii) notes the current non-standard care home rates

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

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

- 8. We have improved the health and wellbeing of our people and inequalities are reduced

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Each year the fees and charges for specific services are reviewed in line with statutory requirements, guidance and Angus Council policy and revise the rates, if appropriate.
- 3.2 This report sets out charges to be applied to standard care home fees and the procedure for agreeing non-standard rates, including additional service charges. It also advises of the rates for free personal and nursing care.
- 3.3 As well as the standard rates paid for residential and nursing care, up to the nationally agreed rate, Angus Council currently pays a number of non-standard rates. The non-standard rates outwith Angus are based on the rates agreed by the relevant host local authority where the care home is situated or they are particular rates based on the additional assessed needs of a particular resident. Those rates applicable to specific individuals are not increased without detailed reviews being undertaken

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 **Residential and nursing charges (including local authority homes)**
Charges for residential and nursing accommodation are governed by the National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (as amended) and the National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) Regulations 1992 (1992 Regulations). Fees for such residential and nursing home placements are reviewed and set by the local authority each year. In recent years fees for private and voluntary

residential and nursing homes have been agreed nationally between CoSLA and care home providers. A national care home rates increase of 1% plus the DWP uplift has been agreed with providers' representatives for 2014-15 and the rates in this report are based on that agreement. The new rates will be payable from 7 April 2014.

4.2 The current position is set out below. Rates are paid for placements in private and voluntary sector homes subject to care homes accepting and meeting quality conditions. The quality conditions are derived from scores achieved in Care Inspectorate Reports and Angus Council's has agreed procedures for reducing or removing awards where care homes do not meet the requirements.

4.3 **Additional Service Charges for Private and Voluntary Sector Residential and Nursing Homes**

These were introduced as part of the quality award conditions in 2007/2008. They are defined as "charges for facilities, goods and services that are significantly and demonstrably higher than those expected by Care Standards". These charges are paid either by care home residents or by third parties on their behalf. Angus Council is not liable for payment of these charges but is responsible for agreeing that such charges are reasonable. In line with the recommendation above in relation to care homes fees, it is recommended that these rates be increased by 1% in 2014/15, in line with the increase in standard care home fees. The Additional Service Charges considered reasonable are shown in Appendix 1.

4.4 **Non Standard Residential and Nursing Home Rates**

There are currently a number of placements in care homes which are above the nationally agreed rates. These are either placements outwith Angus where the rate agreed by the host authority as reasonable is paid, or placements designed to meet an individual's specifically assessed needs. For individual placements to meet specific needs the rate to be paid will be determined by the Head of Adult Services.

4.5 For placements outwith Angus where the host authority approves an increase in the reasonable rates, our payments and charges will be increased accordingly. Those rates applicable to specific individuals will not be increased without detailed reviews being undertaken.

4.6 **Free Personal and Nursing Care Rates**

Elected members are also advised that the Scottish Government sets the Free Personal Care allowance and has decided to increase the current payment levels from £166 a week to £169 a week for personal care and from £75 a week for nursing care to £77 a week from 7 April 2014. (Appendix 2)

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The increase in the payments to homes will result in estimated additional expenditure of £268,000 whilst the increase in free personal care in residential and nursing homes amounts to £42,000. This is based on residents as at 31/03/13. This will be funded as follows: -

	£000's
Increase in fees for residential and nursing care	268
Increased Free Personal Care Rates in residential and nursing homes	42
Total Increased Costs	310
Funded by Budget Growth for 2014/15	392

5.2 it should be noted that CoSLA has agreed to hold further discussions with Scottish Care should the national minimum wage exceed inflation, which could increase the costs of private and voluntary sector placements in 2014/15.

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:

REPORT AUTHOR: Tony Fitzgerald
EMAIL DETAILS: PEOPLE@angus.gov.uk

[Equality Impact Assessment](#)

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 Additional Service Charges

Appendix 2 Free Personal and Nursing Care Rates

Residential Rates – Local Authority (From 7 April 2014)

Standard charges for local authority provision

Category	Homes	Rates for 2013/14 a week	Rates for 2014/15 a week
Older people	Kinloch, Seaton Grove, Beech Hill House	£558.25	£564.95
Learning disabilities	The Gables	£558.25	£564.95
Dementia Care units	Seaton Grove, Kinloch, Beech Hill House	£952.91	£964.34

Fees for Private and Voluntary Sector Residential and Nursing Homes

BLANK	Rates for 2013/2014	Rates for 2013/2014	Rates for 2014/2015	Rates for 2014/2015
Category	Standard Rate	Quality Standards Met Rate	Standard Rate	Quality Standards Met Rate
Residential Home	£499.38	£501.88	£505.46	£507.96
Dementia Care Units	£499.38	£501.88	£505.46	£507.96
(Residential) Nursing Home	£580.11	£583.11	£587.00	£590.00
Higher Dependency residential units (specifically commissioned) Dorward House, Montrose	£775.25	£777.75	£784.55	£787.05

Additional Service Charges for Private and Voluntary Sector Residential and Nursing Homes

Item	Charge UPDATE
Usable floor space above 12.5 m ² in a residents room where first registered before 1 April 2002	Up to £4.05 per m ² a week
Usable floor space above 14.75 m ² in a residents room where first registered on or after 1 April 2002	Up to £4.05 per m ² a week
En-suite with wash hand basin and w.c.	Up to £20.75 a week
En-suite with wash hand basin w.c. and bath	Up to £24.17 a week
En-suite with wash hand basin w.c. and shower	Up to £29.98 a week
Staffing levels permanently above that on a homes Care Commission staffing notice	Calculated on a case by case basis.

APPENDIX 2

Free Personal Care

	Rates for 2013/2014	Rates for 2014/2015
Free Personal Care	£166.00	£169.00
Free Nursing Care	£75.00	£77.00