

**Draft Angus Council report**

**ANGUS COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 2019**

**REVIEW OF ANGUS COUNCIL CHARGES FOR SUPPORT AND CARE SERVICES AND  
RESIDENTIAL FEES 2019/20**

**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 2019.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Angus Council:-

1. Approves the proposed changes in charges for Support and Care Services as set out at 4.1 and 4.2 and the introduction of a charge for GPS locators, in agreed circumstances, with effect from April 2019;
2. Notes the continued adoption during 2019/20 of COSLA guidance regarding 'income disregards' for the purposes of assessing client contributions;
3. Note the 'further developments' under consideration which once further progressed may be brought forward for consideration in the future;
4. Approves the proposed residential charges for Angus Council owned Care Homes as set out at 4.6 with effect from April 2019.

**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 HSCP) Angus HSCP have considered charging arrangements for 2019/20 at the IJB meeting of December 2018 (see report XX/18) and their recommendations are set out in this paper. These recommendations are made in the context of the overall financial position of the Partnership. Previous recommendations were set out in papers 207/17, 263/17 and 53/18.

In February 2019, Angus HSCP 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 HSCP, the settlement requires the Partnership to develop a series of proposals regarding charging related issues that reflect the challenging circumstances.

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.

In terms of managing the implementation of all recommendations, an implementation plan would be managed by Angus HSCP in conjunction with relevant support services.

#### 4. PROPOSALS

##### 4.1 CHARGES FOR ANGUS COUNCIL SUPPORT AND CARE SERVICES (ASSESSED)

Angus HSCP provides a range of non-residential services which are chargeable. These services are charged for in accordance with the Contribution policy and charges are based on each individual's financial assessment. These charges were last revised in report 53/18. The uplifts for rates in 2018/19 was proposed in advance of knowing final pay costs for 2018/19. As these are now more clearly understood (current estimate of a 3% increase), so the uplift for 2018/19 should now be retrospectively adjusted. This retrospective adjustment needs to take place at the same time as the uplift for 2019/20 is made.

So the combined effect of these adjustments is set out below:-

2018/19 – 1.00% (retrospective adjustment)  
2019/20 – 3.00% (estimated adjustment)

On that basis it is proposed to increase the rates for relevant Support and Care services from April 2019 by 4.0% (being the cumulative impact of the 2018/19 retrospective adjustment and the 2019/20 estimated uplift).

Should the 2019/20 estimated uplift of 3% be an understatement, then this will be remedied in future years.

The effect on individual services is shown in Appendix 1. The net financial benefit is estimated at c£30k per annum and is 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.

##### 4.2 CHARGES FOR ANGUS COUNCIL SUPPORT AND CARE SERVICES (FLAT RATE)

In addition to the services described at 4.1, charged against an individual's financial assessment, a small number of services are charged at a flat rate (outwith the financial assessment). These fees include Community Meals, Community Alarm and Telecare charges.

For 2019/20, it is now proposed to adjust these flat rate fees as follows:-

Service	2018/19 Charge (£)	Proposed 2019/20 Charge (£)	%age Increase
Community Alarm	£4.75/week	£4.90/week	3.1% <sup>1</sup>
Community / Day care Meal (Lunchtime)	£3.45/day	£3.55/day	2.9%
Community Meal (Evening)	£2.90/day	£2.90/day	0%
Telecare	£1.00/week	£1.00/week	0% <sup>2</sup>

1. Note no increase in 2018/19.
2. Charge introduced from October 2018.

The above recommendations take into account the current financial support of the Community Meals service, rates of inflation associated with service delivery (including annual increase of staff pay rates and consumer price indices) and guidance regarding chargeable costs.

It has been assessed that the additional income that will be derived from the above increases is c£32k per annum. These changes in charges will help offset the increased costs associated with service delivery.

## GPS Locators

From 2019/20, it is proposed that Angus HSCP review the charging framework for GPS locators. These are currently supplied at the telecare rate of £1 per week. However this does not cover the cost of the monthly subscription (SIM card) required to operate the GPS locator. That cost is currently c£12 per month funded by Angus HSCP.

Noting the HSCP currently only has c25 GPS locators, and the potential for this number to increase in future due to the benefits to service users and service users families, it is now proposed to remove charges for GPS locators for a trial period (assumed to be 8 weeks) and after that either direct service users to suitable commercial providers or, at the service users' choice, continue with Angus HSCP provision but introduce a monthly charge to offset the monthly subscription charge of (currently) £12/month. This trial period will allow service users and their families to make informed judgement about this technology.

The introduction of the above GPS charge has limited direct financial benefit but, for GPS locators, it allows Angus HSCP to create a trial period for service users and creates a charging infrastructure to support the potential increase of this technology in future, while – dependent on service users' choice - does represent an equitable cost for service users to contribute to.

### 4.3 INCREASES IN THE TAPER APPLIED TO EXCESS INCOME

In 2018/19 the taper that applies to excess income was adjusted from 70% to 75%. It is not proposed to revise this for 2019/20.

### 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

Angus Council report 53/18 set out proposals to further consider charging proposals. An update on those proposals and other options being considered is set out below:-

#### 4.5.1 Compulsory Treatment Orders

It was previously noted that charges for those subject to Compulsory Treatment Orders (CTOs) were being reviewed. After consideration of this issue locally and feedback from a variety of sources, this option is no longer being pursued.

#### 4.5.2 Adaptation Services

Angus HSCP remains 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). However as the contract for provision Care and Repair Services is now subject to a tendering exercise, the option to introduce charges for these services has been deferred. However the option to charge for services is being considered in the tendering process.

#### 4.5.3 Community Equipment

Angus HSCP remains interested in developing discussions around creating a charging framework for Community Equipment. The current position is that Angus HSCP continues to explore this in conjunction with Dundee HSCP with whom we share a Community Equipment service.

#### 4.5.4 Charging For Respite Services

Currently Respite in a Care Home (planned or unplanned) is charged for based on a person's financial assessment. The national "Charging for Residential Care Guide" (CRAG) allows for temporary stays up to 8 weeks to be charged for at a reasonable rate. To ensure equity where people are choosing alternative options for respite under Self Directed Support, Angus HSCP are reviewing charges associated with planned respite care. While final views have not yet been formed about future charges to charging arrangements, this remains under local consideration.

#### 4.6 RESIDENTIAL FEES

On an annual basis, rates need to be agreed for the weekly cost of in house residential services. Section 22 of the National Assistance Regulations requires local authorities to set the standard rate for local authority homes at an amount equivalent to the full cost to the authority of providing the accommodation. For 2019/20, rates from 2018/19 will be increased by 4% (based on the same methodology as set out in section 4.1). Service workings indicate that these charges are consistent with the regulations noted above, but this will be reviewed in more detail in 2019/20.

Category	Homes	2018/19 Rates per Week	2019/20 Rates per Week
Residential Care (e.g. Older People, Learning Disability)	Kinloch, Beech Hill, Seaton Grove, The Gables	£596	£620
Residential care (High Dependency Units)	Kinloch, Beech Hill, Seaton Grove	£1018	£1059

The Council will be aware of interim solutions for the provision of respite care for Adults with Learning Disabilities in Angus (Policy and Resources Committee paper 386/17 "Provision of Interim Respite Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities"). While this service provision does not fit into the above categories for residential care, 2019/20 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.

#### 4.7 CHARGES AND CONTRIBUTION POLICY

As noted in report 53/18, Angus IJB operates a Contributions Policy for Support and Care at Home Services. This policy has developed over a number of years and work is ongoing to consolidate the current policy and guidance. This will be presented to future Committees.

### 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 HSCP.

On an annual basis Angus HSCP generates c£10m of income. This reflects charges for both Support and Care and Residential Services. Income streams are routinely monitored through corporate support arrangements. In any given year there can be an element of bad debt. Unpaid invoices are continually reviewed and recovery is in line with Council procedures. Write offs are only considered after all means of recovery have been explored.

### 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.

Angus HSCP currently considers 'Charging' issues through a Charging group operating within the IJB. However, due to staff turnover the IJB Management team does not currently have broad in-house expertise regarding charging issues. This issue does need addressed in due course.

## **7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are equality implications arising from this report and an Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached at Appendix 2.

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**February 2019**

**Appendices**

**Appendix 1 – Revisions to Charges for Support and Care Services**  
**Appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment**

## APPENDIX 1 – REVISIONS TO CHARGES FOR SUPPORT AND CARE SERVICES

Supplier Name	Type of Support	Per (Describe)	2018/19	2019/20
Angus Council	Housing Support	Hour	£23.77	£24.72
Angus Council	Mainstream Daycare	Per session (5 hours)	£56.15	£58.40
Angus Council	Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities)	Hour (Group Support)	£5.24	£5.44
Angus Council	Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities)	Hour (Close support)	£10.48	£10.88
Angus Council	Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities)	Hour (Individual Support)	£31.43	£32.68
Angus Council	Resource Centre (Learning Disabilities)	Hour (2:1 Support)	£62.87	£65.40
Angus Council	College Support (Learning Disabilities)	Hour (Group Support)	£5.00	£5.20
Angus Council	College Support (Learning Disabilities)	Hour (Close support)	£10.01	£10.40
Angus Council	College Support (Learning Disabilities)	Hour (Individual Support)	£30.03	£31.20
Angus Council	Attendance at Glenloch Centre Forfar	Per session (2 hours + travel)	£20.95	£21.80

Based on uplift of 4%

Effective date - April 2019

Any instances of Personal Care would be charged at Housing Support

**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**BACKGROUND**

<p><b>Date of Assessment:</b> 21/11/2018</p>	<p><b>Report Number:</b> xx/19</p>
<p><b>Title of document being assessed:</b></p>	<p><b>REVIEW OF SUPPORT AND CARE AND RESIDENTIAL FEES 2019/20</b></p>
<p><b>1. This is a new policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed.</b> (If <b>Yes</b> please check box) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>This is a new budget saving proposal</b> (If <b>Yes</b> please check box) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>This is an existing policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed?</b> (If <b>Yes</b> please check box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>This is an existing budget saving proposal being reviewed</b> (If <b>Yes</b> please check box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>2. Please give details of the Lead Officer and the group responsible for considering the Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)</b></p>	<p>George Bowie, Head of Community Health and Care Services / Angus HSCP Charging Group</p>
<p><b>3. Please give a brief description of the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed, including its aims and objectives, actions and processes.</b></p>	
<p>This report sets out proposals to revise Support and Care and Residential fees for services provided by Angus Council with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.</p>	
<p><b>4. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, procedure, strategy or practice and who are the intended beneficiaries?</b></p>	
<p>The intended outcome 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 Social Work Scotland Act 1968 ensures that the overall budget available to the partnership progresses delegated functions</p>	
<p><b>5. Has any local consultation, improvement or research with protected characteristic communities informed the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being EQIA assessed here? No</b></p>	
<p><b>If Yes, please give details.</b></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 3<sup>rd</sup> sector.

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

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

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**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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Resource allocation system (RAS) and calculated budgets through SDS project. Developing the fair cost of care model through Help to Live at Home. In April 2019 all adults as well as older people will be supported by the Scottish Government's policy in relation to free personal care
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			

<b>RELIGION/ BELIEF</b>			
<b>GENDER REASSINGMENT</b>			
<b>MARRIAGE/CIVIL PARTNERSHIP</b>			
<b>PREGNANCY/ MATERNITY</b>			
<b>OTHER: CARERS OF OLDER AND/OR DISABLED PEOPLE</b>			

(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**

<b>Name of service or Partnership:</b>	<b>Angus Health and Social Care Partnership</b>
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**Type of Document**

Human Resource Policy

General Policy	√
Strategy/Service	<input type="checkbox"/>
Change Papers/Local Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guidelines and Protocols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Manager Responsible</b>	<b>Author Responsible</b>
<b>Name: George Bowie</b>	<b>Name: Vivienne Davidson</b>
<b>Designation: Head of Community Health and Care Services ( South Angus)</b>	<b>Designation: Principal Officer</b>
<b>Base: St Margaret's House</b>	<b>Base: St Margaret's House</b>
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<b>Date of Next Policy Review: Not known</b>
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**For additional information and advice please contact:**

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