

REPORT TO: Executive Board Sub Committee
DATE: 15th March 2012
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities
PORTFOLIO: Health & Adults
SUBJECT: Review of Fees & Charges – Communities
Directorate 2012-2013
WARDS: All

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present to the Executive Board Sub Committee the proposed increases in fees and charges for Adult & Community Services.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

i) **That the Executive Board Sub Committee approves the proposed changes in fees and charges outlined in Appendix 1.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Appendices to this report show the current charges and the proposed charges for 2012-2013.

- Appendix 1 – Adult Social Care

3.2 Fees and charges for social care services listed have not been inflated for 2012-2013, in line with the decision not to inflate rates paid to external commissioned providers of Domiciliary, Registered Residential and Supporting Services.

3.3 The transport charge in Appendix 1 Section 1 has been inflated by 2.0% but is currently subject to review.

3.4 The charges listed in Appendix 1 Section 2 for the Community Warden and Lifeline Services have not been uplifted but are currently subject to review; and any proposed changes will be reported back to Executive Board Sub Committee for approval.

3.5 Pitch charges for the Riverview Gypsy site and the Warrington Road Transit Site have been inflated by 2.0%. The water and sewerage charges for Riverview Gypsy site have not been uplifted due to the existing charge being sufficient to recoup full cost.

3.6 Appointee and Receivership charges have been inflated by 2.0%.

- 3.7 The charge for meals delivered to people in their own homes has increased to £3.10 and the charges for meal time packs has increased to £2.10.
- 3.8 Fees and charges for Adults and Community Care will be increased with effect from 9th April 2012 to coincide with the date of the annual increase in Benefits rates.
- 3.9 Whilst this report proposes that a number of fees and charges are not increased, in line with a decision at Full Council on 3rd March 2010, the percentage of a service users disposable income used in the Fairer Charging Assessment is set to increase from 60% to 70% from April 2012. The increase in the percentage of income taken into account in the calculation will result in higher contributions from service users towards meeting the cost of their care.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The charges which have not been uplifted will result in no increase of income in that area. .

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

None identified.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

None identified.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The provision of care services that meet people's needs improves their health and wellbeing.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The provision of care services that meet people's needs increases their safety and mitigates risks.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None identified.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The Local Government Act 2003 includes a general power for best value authority to charge for discretionary services i.e. those services that the authority has the power, but is not obliged, to provide. Guidance is issued under the power in section 93, which states charges are limited to cost recovery. The Department of Health's fairer Charging Policies for Home care and other Non-Residential Social Services Guidance, Sept 2003, states that where Councils charge for non-residential services, flat rate charges are acceptable.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 None.

9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

9.1 Gypsy/Travellers are a recognised BME group, and the continued provision of a properly funded, managed and maintained site ensures the Council continues to meet the needs of this group.

FEES & CHARGES

APPENDIX 1

SECTION 1 – CHARGES

	Current 2011-2012 £	Proposed 2012-2013 £
Maximum Weekly Charge for Residential Care		
Residential Care for Older People in Council homes (per week)	365.06	365.06
Dementia Residential care for Older People (per week)	430.41	430.41
Adults with Learning Disability receiving respite services (per week)	524.55	524.55
Adults in Family Placements (per week)	384.49	384.49
Meals in the Community		
Family Placement Breakfast	1.79	1.79
Family Placement Lunch	2.22	2.22
Family Placement Tea	2.07	2.07
Meals - delivered to people in their own homes	2.94	3.10
Meals - Tea Time pack delivered to people in their own homes	2.04	2.10
Visitors and Guests		
Accommodation (per night)	10.82	11.04
Breakfast	2.73	2.79
Light Meal	3.51	3.58
Main Meal	4.77	4.87
Maximum Charges for Community-based Care		
Domiciliary Care (per hour)	11.35	11.35
Day Care (per session)	14.86	14.86
Family Placement (per session)	14.86	14.86
Dorset Gardens support charge (per week)	10.40	10.40
Handyperson Service (per hour)	5.10	5.10
Key Safe	31.32	31.95
Night time service (per week)	24.30	25.60
Charge those who receive High Rate DLA Care/AA the amount of Benefit they receive to pay for night care services in proportion to the amount of night care service that the Council pay to provide them with. A night care service is defined as a service either under a sleep in session or waking night service between the hours of 10pm to 8am.	-	-
Transport (per journey)	1.07	1.09
The charge is per trip to a maximum charge per week of £10.90, except for service users on the higher rate of DLA Mobility component for whom it will be up to a maximum of 50% of the higher rate of DLA Mobility component. i.e. £27.02 per week. Trips beyond 10 miles of Halton's boundary to be charged separately.		

	Current 2011-2012 £	Proposed 2012-2013 £
Charges Community Based Services		
Pitch Charges (weekly) - Riverview Gypsy Site - 21 pitches @	51.47	52.50
Pitch Charges (weekly) - Riverview Gypsy Site - 1 pitch @	60.06	61.26
Water & Sewerage (weekly)- Riverview Gypsy Site	13.10	13.10
Pitch Charges (daily) - Travellers Site	11.39	11.62
Charges to other Local Authorities		
Older People in Residential Intermediate Care (per week)	604.75	604.75
Adults in Supported Accommodation (per week)	524.55	524.55
Day Care - Older People (per session)	41.41	42.24
Day care - Adults with Learning Disability (per session)	61.51	62.74
Day Care - Adults with Physical/Sensory Disability (per session)	86.20	87.92
Appointee/Receivership Charges		
For the Council to act as DWP Benefits Appointee	100% of Interest earned on account	
Securing Property	82.39	84.03
Continuous monitoring of property when the property holder is unable to do so (cost per hour)	21.96	22.40
Storage of Wills (annual cost)	16.48	16.81
Property searches, meter readings etc (cost per hour)	21.96	22.40
Duchy of Lancaster Referrals where people have died intestate	Actual cost	Actual cost
Applications to the Court of Protection	Actual cost	Actual cost
Replacement documentation for Post Office Payout Scheme	Actual cost	Actual cost

People's ability to pay charges for Residential Care is assessed under Government Guidelines (CRAG). Charges for Community Care are assessed under the Councils Fairer Charging and service users are given the opportunity to detail the extra spending they have as a result of their special needs before their charge for care is calculated.

SECTION 2 - COMMUNITY WARDENS/LIFELINE CHARGES FOR SERVICE

	Current 2011-2012 £	Proposed 2012-2013 £
SUBJECT TO REVIEW		
Level 1 Call centre monitoring plus community warden reactive response. (Assessment and support plan, review within the first 6 weeks and then 6 monthly, unless further review is indicated.)	5.64	5.64
Level 2 Call centre monitoring plus reactive callout. Community warden visits up to two weekly, according to assessed need and support planning.	6.75	6.75
Level 3 Call centre monitoring plus reactive call out. Community warden daily visits according to assessed need and support planning. Assistive technology is provided according to assessed need.	9.00	9.00
Intermediate care, short term assessment and monitoring, including assistive technology	Non-chargeable	Non-chargeable

SECTION 3 – FEES PAID TO CARE PROVIDERS AND SERVICE USERS

	Current 2011-2012 £	Proposed 2012-2013 £
Payments for Direct Payments		
Standard Rate - Personal Assistant (hourly rate)	9.54	9.54
Standard Rate - Agency (hourly rate)	11.13	11.13
Complex Rate - Personal Assistant (hourly rate)	11.59	11.59
Complex Rate - Agency (hourly rate)	11.59	11.59
Payments for Adult Family Placements		
Family Placement (per week)	384.49	384.49
Family Placement (per 6 hour session) 1 person	32.95	32.95
Family Placement (per 3 hour session) 1 person	16.48	16.48
Family Placement (per 6 hour session) 2 people	54.93	54.93
Family Placement (per 3 hour session) 2 people	27.47	27.47
Family Placement (per 6 hour session) 3 people	65.90	65.90
Family Placement (per 3 hour session) 3 people	32.95	32.95
Family Placement (night care per night)	54.93	54.93