

Bradford Adult Care Contributions Policy proposed changes

Why do we need to make changes to the Policy?



Adult social care has changed a lot in the last 3 years especially as a lot of people have individual budgets



We need to make sure that the **contributions policy** is fair and **consistent** with these changes



The Council **subsidies** a lot of service users by working out how much they pay them based on costs which are less than the actual cost of the service people go to. We will need to start using "**real costs**"



Without peoples **contributions** we would not be able to afford to help people stay **independent** and well. Other **local**

authorities charge for their services and we have attached a table to this policy so you can see what they charge.

Which services will be affected?



- Home care



- Day care



- Direct payments or individual accounts



- Sitting services



- Respite care



Service users will have to pay a contribution (based on a **financial assessment**) whether the council has provided the service or paid someone else to provide it.

Some services that are free of charge at the moment will have to be paid for.

These are:



- Day centre meals



- Transport

Are there any services that won't be affected?

Yes the services that won't be affected are:



- Residential care



- Equipment



- Telecare



- **Adaptations to homes**

Will it affect me?

It will affect people who use **non-residential** services. This includes you if:



- you have a learning disability



- you are an older person



- you have mental health issues



- you have a physical disability or a sensory need

What are the big changes that will affect me?

Contributions:



We want to change the **maximum** charges that we use now for the price of services to what the real cost should be



We want to work out your contribution **annually** instead of weekly or monthly.

This is so nobody is **double charged** when they are using respite and other services in the same week

Charging for Services that are currently free:

At the moment the average cost of transport provided to day centre users is £34 per return journey



- We want to reduce the **subsidy** for day centre users by charging £3 for travel to and from a day centre
- We want to reduce the **subsidy** on meals that are served in day centres meals by charging £3

What will this mean for me?

It depends on:



- Which services you get
- How much money you pay now
- The way that you pay now

Someone will work with you during the consultation to help work out how things will change for you.



When are the changes going to happen?

If the new policy is approved the Council will start to make changes by April 1st 2012

What if I can't afford the services with the new charges?



Nobody will be asked to contribute more money than they can afford and nobody will be charged more than the service actually costs.

Here is an example of how we will calculate your **contribution**:



The **contribution** that you pay will be decided after you have had a **financial assessment**.

The contribution is calculated on the four following things:

Benefits

If you receive Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance care component at the middle or higher rate or Severe Disability Premium we will charge you one third of this. If you do not receive the full amount of the premium then we will charge you a third of what you get.



Basic charge

We will charge you a flat rate charge if your total income is more than income support or pension credit plus one quarter.

Income



Income (excluding Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance care component) is added together and your contribution is calculated from the table attached.

Savings

If you have savings which are less than £14,250 you will not pay anything from your savings



If you have savings which are over £23,250 you will have to pay for the full cost of your services.

If you have savings more than £14,250 but less than £23,250 then you will pay £1 for every £250 above £14,250

We work out the amount that you have to pay by looking at the cost of the services that you use and compare this to your financial assessment. We will use the figure which is lower as your contribution.



So for example:

If you have been assessed as being able to afford to pay a **contribution** of £60 per week:

If you currently get 4 hours of home care, your contribution is £10.35 this is worked out for 4 hours so you pay £41.40

Under the new proposals the charge for 1 hour would be £13.75 therefore you would now pay £55.00.

Example 2:

Another **service user** who is assessed as being able to afford a contribution of £20.00

They currently get 4 hours of home care so their contribution is £41.40. As they are assessed as only being able to contribute £20 therefore they pay £20.00.



Under the new proposals the new figure for **contributions** would be £55.00 but because they have been assessed as only being able to pay £20 they will still pay the same amount.



There is a **Glossary** of useful words which is attached with the document to help understand important words which are used regularly in documents.