

Personal Care at Home Bill

Implications for Kent County
Council

Background

- Introduced in Queen's Speech 18 Nov 09
- Bill and Consultation published 25 Nov 09
- Consultation ends 23 Feb (26 Jan)
- Proposed implementation 1 October 2010

Summary

- Bill makes statutory provisions for free *personal* care **at home**
- Consultation outlines proposed implementation:
- Proposes free personal care for those with 'highest needs'
- 'Highest needs' defined as Critical (FACS) with 4+ ADLs
- To include those currently self-funding their care

Activities of Daily Living

Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)

There are six basic categories of ADLs:

- personal toilet (washing, bathing, personal presentation, dressing and undressing and skin care);
- eating and drinking (as opposed to obtaining and preparing food and drink);
- managing urinary and bowel functions (including maintaining continence and managing incontinence);
- managing problems associated with immobility;
- management of prescribed treatment (e.g. administration and monitoring medication),
- behaviour management and ensuring personal safety (for example, for those with cognitive impairment - minimising stress and risk)

Source: p.15, Personal Care at Home Bill, *A consultation on proposals for regulations and guidance*, Department of Health (2009)

Case study 1

- Mrs W is 87 and suffers from short term memory loss and Parkinson's and is unsteady on her feet. *She lives with her daughter* who works full time. She requires help with toileting, prompting to take medication, support with eating & drinking and mobility.
- Receives:
 - 20 x ½ hour sessions per week
 - Daycare 3 days per week
 - Respite 4 weeks per year
- Weekly cost (inc. respite) = £307.47

Case study 2

- Miss C is 50 and has Cerebral Palsy and is a wheelchair user at all times. *She lives with her brother in law* who carries out all domestic tasks. She requires help with washing and dressing, transferring to and from wheelchair, using a commode and almost constant accompaniment to ensure her safety.
- Receives:
 - 7 x 1 hour sessions per week with 2 staff
 - 20 x ½ hour sessions per week with 2 staff
 - 1 x 1 hour session with 1 staff
 - Independent Living Fund provides funding for someone to take Miss C out
- Weekly cost (exc. ILF) = £489.40

Implications

Are varied and far reaching, and include:

- Loss of income from existing service users
- Requirement to provide for self – funders who qualify
- Increased transactional costs
- Higher expectations
- Possible disputes (cf. Continuing Care)
- Changes to SWIFT client information system

Financial impact

- Kent to receive grant of **£5-6M**
- Expected to find **£3.3M** in efficiencies
- Takes little account of younger adults
- No. of self – funders difficult to estimate
- Govt costings based on 6.54 hrs per week
- Independent research shows 4+ ADLs should be met by **15.6 hrs per week**