

Adult Social Care Reform

PRESENTATION TO THE
ADULT SOCIAL CARE CABINET COMMITTEE

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Background and introduction...1,4,3 in 12

	Date of publication	Title of published paper	Type of published paper
2021	11 February 2021	Integration and innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all	White Paper. Legislative programme
	29 March 2021	Transforming the public health system: reforming the public health system for challenges of our times	Policy paper. Established the UK Health Security
	22 June 2021	Data saves lives: reshaping health and social care with data	Policy paper
	7 September 2021	Building Back Better: Our Plan for Health Social Care	Policy paper
	24 November 2021	Health and Care Bill	Bill Introduced in the House of Commons. Puts ICB, ICP on statutory footing and amends s.15 of the Care Act 2014 in re: cap on care costs
	1 December 2021	People at the Heart of Care: Adult Social Care Reform	White Paper Reforming charging policy
2022	2 February 2022	Levelling Up the United Kingdom	White Paper
	9 February 2022	Health and Social Care Integration: joining up care for people, places and populations	White Paper Aligned & pooled budgets

Chapter 1: Who cares?

What the White Paper says

- Acknowledges that social care is “at the heart of our communities” and “matters to everybody”
- It sets out the scale of social care affecting the lives of 10 million adults of all ages in England at any one time, is clear that it is about adults of all ages, notes the range of activities and settings underpinning social care
- Recognises that the care workforce is “our biggest asset”. It also recognises the “crucial contribution” of unpaid carers
- Over 1.5 million individuals – representing 4.6% of the 32.4 million people employed in England
- the legacy of the COVID-19 pandemic on both physical and mental health will also contribute to future demand for social care
- Precedes the forthcoming publication of a standalone strategy focused on those living with dementia and their carers

Chapter 2: Our 10-year vision for adult social care

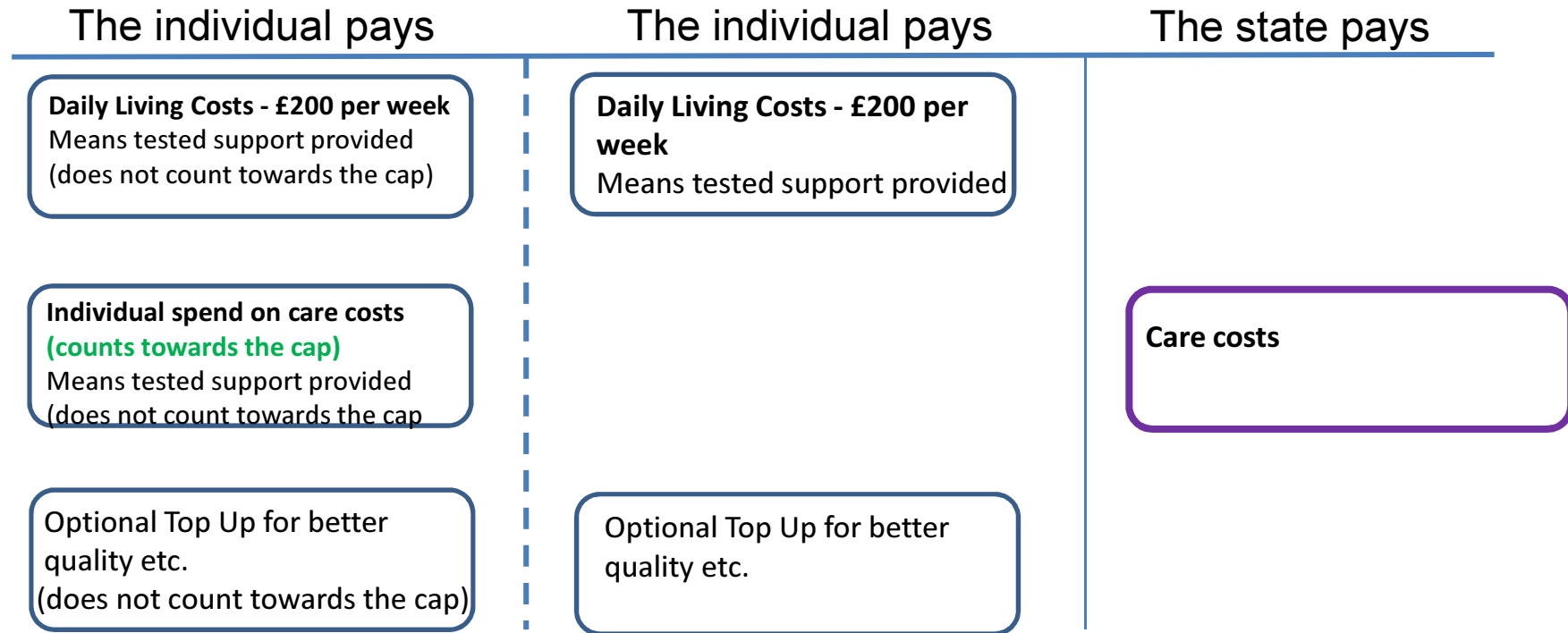
What the White Paper says

- Sets out a 10-year vision for care and support in England which puts people at its heart, centred on three key objectives:
 1. People have choice, control, and support to live independent lives
 2. People can access outstanding quality and tailored care and support
 3. People find adult social care fair and accessible
 - Access the right information and advice at the right time for people to understand the different options available to them that best meet their preferences and circumstances, including options for where care and support would best be delivered, and costs they may need to meet.
 - Create a fairer system where people who self-fund their care do not have to pay more than local authorities for the same service
 - Cap on personal care costs at £86,000 from October 2023
 - New means-test from October 2023 when the lower capital limit changes from £14,250 to £20,000 and upper capital limit from £23,250 to £100,000
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How the cap will work in care homes

Before reaching the cap

After reaching the cap



Note: Those receiving NHS continuing healthcare (CHC) and Free Nursing Care (FNC) are not affected



What does and does not count

Costs that count towards the cap

The cost, or in the case of self-funders what the cost would be, to the local authority to meet a person's eligible care and support needs:

- ✓ For a person receiving local authority financial support to meet their eligible needs this is the amount the person contributes towards the eligible needs specified in their personal budget, less daily living costs if included.
- ✓ For a self-funder meeting their own eligible needs this is the cost of meeting the person's eligible needs specified in their independent personal budget (IPB), less daily living costs if included.

Costs that do not count towards the cap

- Costs of meeting eligible care and support needs incurred before Oct 2023
- Costs of meeting non-eligible needs, even where the local authority has chosen to meet those needs.
- For people who receive care in a care home, daily living costs at the level set in the regulations.
- For people receiving local authority financial support, top-up payments by the person or a third party chooses to make for a preferred choice of accommodation.
- Costs of any service provided to the person which is not included in the personal budget or IPB, such as prevention and reablement services.
- Interest or fees charged under a deferred payment agreement.
- NHS-funded nursing care for people in care homes and NHS Continuing Health Care.

Chapter 3: Strong foundations to build on

What the White Paper says

- Acknowledges that there is “an abundance of good practice, aspiration, and the Care Act legislation provides strong foundations for our 10-year vision”
- States that the current Health and Social Care Bill, and the reforms in the White Paper will provide the basis for building on the foundation and address a number of key challenges facing the sector and where improvements need to be made
- Shaping healthy and diverse social care markets
- Variation in quality and safety of care
- Supporting our adult social care workforce
- Navigating the system and finding the right care and support
- Accelerating adoption of technology
- Expanding the choice of housing options
- Driving integration of health and care services

Chapter 4: Providing the Right Care, in the Right Place at the Right Time

What the White Paper says

- Sets out several investment commitments over the next 3 years to embed the strategic commitment in all local places to connect housing with health and care and drive the stock of new supported housing
- At least £300 million to integrate housing into local health and care strategies with a focus on increasing the range of new supported housing options
- At least £150 million additional funding to drive greater adoption of technology and achieve widespread digitisation across social care
- At least £500 million regarding social care workforce proposals such as the right training, portable care certificates and skills passport
- At least £570 million on a new practical support service to make minor repairs and changes in peoples' homes alongside increasing the upper limit of the Disabilities Facilities Grant for home adaptations such as stairlifts, wetrooms and home technologies.
- Up to £25 million to work with the sector to kick start a change in the services provided to support unpaid carers, with at least £5 million to fund a new national website to explain the upcoming changes
- £30 million to help local areas innovate around the support and care they provide in new and different ways
- £70 million to increase the support offer across adult social care to improve the delivery of care and support specialised housing

Chapter 5: Empowering those who draw on care, unpaid carers and families

What the White Paper says

- Outlines a range of measure designed to improve information and advice, empower unpaid carers and supporting autistic people and people with a disability into employment
 - Invest at least £5 million to test and evaluate new ways to help people navigate local adult social care systems
 - At least £5 million to fund a national website providing information and simple explainers about adult social care reform
 - Up to £25 million to work with the sector to kick start a change in the services provided to support unpaid carers
 - Test a range of new and existing interventions, which could include respite and breaks, peer group and wellbeing support, and new ways to combine these to maximise support.
 - On respite to explore different models of respite, how they are accessed and what the barriers to access are
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Chapter 6: Our strategy for the social care workforce

What the White Paper says

- Acknowledges that people working in social care need to feel recognised, rewarded and equipped with the right skills and knowledge
- A Knowledge and Skills Framework (KSF), career pathways and linked investment in learning and development to support progression for care workers and registered managers
- Funding for Care Certificates, alongside significant work to create a delivery standard recognised across the sector. This will improve portability, so that care workers do not need to repeat the Care Certificate when moving roles
- Continuous Professional Development (CPD) budgets for registered nurses, nursing associates, occupational therapists, and other allied health professionals
- Initiatives to provide wellbeing and mental health support and to improve access to occupational health

Chapter 7: Supporting local authorities to deliver social care reform and our vision

What the White Paper says

- £3.6 billion will be provided between 2022 and 2025 to reform the social care charging system and enable all local authorities to move towards paying providers a fair rate of care. Support will be provided for sustainable care markets and investment in strengthening market shaping capability
- Introduce a new assurance framework via a new duty for the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to independently review and assess local authority performance in delivering adult social care adult social care duties under the Care Act 2014 and ICSs
- Acknowledges that there is a lack of data and evidence on the extent to which care needs are not being met and hopes that better quality data, including client level data, will help increase understanding about both who accesses care, how and with what impact, and who does not and what the barriers are by establishing an adult social care data framework by Spring 2022
- New rights for self-funders to request local authorities to help

Chapter 8: Where do we go from here?

What the White Paper says

- Commits to working in partnership with stakeholders and people who draw on social care to develop and design the implementation of the White Paper's various measures
- Set up co-productive forums to ensure the voice of people who draw on social care is involved in the ongoing design and implementation of reform
- Housing: working with councils, housing providers and others to agree how to target investment in housing and design the 'Innovative models of care programme'
- Disabled Facilities Grant: consult on changes to the upper limit for the Disabled Facilities Grant
- Digital and technology: publish a social care technology blueprint and develop advice on 'what good looks like' for social care technology
- Information and advice: develop and refine further policy proposals on information and advice
- Unpaid carers: set up a series of workshops with stakeholders to inform the development and direction of the funding earmarked to support unpaid carers
- Workforce: co-develop new career pathways, the new national KSF investment

Conclusion

- The extension of the means-test and the introduction of the cap on care costs from October 2023, will have effect in two key ways (1) cause **changes to operational and system processes** and (2) lead to **significant increase in workload**
- The fundamentals of the policy proposals are known BUT, there have been some policy shift and some of the details are still to be confirmed
- Every likelihood that the financial impact flowing from **section 18(3)** and elimination of self-funders cross subsidies will be huge and add to the **pressures on council's budget**, if, adequate funding is not provided
- We should not underestimate the **public communication challenges** because of the difference between perceived headline media reports and the public's understanding of the details of the policy
- Based on the previous work that was done we should have high confidence of **managing the changes successfully**