

From: Clair Bell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
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To: Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee – 15 March 2023

Subject: **REVISION OF RATES PAYABLE AND CHARGES LEVIED FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES IN 2023-24**

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: None

Future Pathway of Paper: None

Summary: This paper sets out the revised rates payable and charges levied for adult social care services for the forthcoming financial year.

Recommendation: The Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** the revised rates payable and charges levied for adult social care services in 2023-24, which were agreed as part of the administration's budget presented to County Council on 9 February 2023.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the revised rates payable and charges levied against Kent County Council (KCC) services provided in-house for the forthcoming financial year, along with any potential changes to the Directorate's charging policy.
- 1.2 This report does not cover the financial assessment process (means testing) which is covered by legislation and KCC's charging policies. This process determines what individuals are asked to pay towards the costs of their care. The report just therefore covers the costs of care for services provided in-house by the Council that are considered within the financial assessment.
- 1.3 All rates payable and charges levied for adult social care services are listed primarily to service users in the attached appendix and represent those published on the Kent.gov.uk website. Appendix 1 details the revised rates payable and charges levied for adult social care services for 2023/2024.
- 1.4 The majority of the rates payable and charges levied detailed in this report have been uplifted in line with either the Kent Pay Award for 2023-2024 or the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as at September 2022.
- 1.5 CPI as at September 2022 was 10.1%, and the average Kent Pay Award, agreed at County Council on 9 February 2023, was 6.76%.

- 1.6 The effective date, unless otherwise stated, for the revised rates payable and charges levied for adult social care services will be the week beginning 10 April 2023, which coincides with the date of inflationary increases to client related benefits.
- 1.7 Rates charged to Other Local Authorities for the use of KCC Homes and Day Centres are not published within the Rates Payable and Charges Levied. The service will agree with finance what the full cost of each unit is, and this will be used as a basis to charge the full cost to Other Local Authorities.

2. Client Contributions for Residential Care

- 2.1 For those clients with the ability to meet the full cost of a placement in the County Council's own provision, the maximum contributions are as follows:

2.1.1 Older People

This rate will increase in line with the average Kent Pay Award figure as at April 2023, of 6.76%.

The rate will be £574.33 for 2023-24.

2.1.2 People with Learning Difficulties

This rate will increase in line with the average Kent Pay Award figure as at April 2023, of 6.76%.

The rate will be £782.92 for 2023-24.

3. Deferred Payments

- 3.1 Information regarding the Deferred Payment scheme can be found on the Kent.gov.uk site: [Deferred Payments for Care and Support](#). The charges linked to Deferred Payments will be dealt with as follows:

3.1.1 Interest to be applied

For Deferred Payments post Care Act the national maximum interest rate will change every six months on 1 January and 1 July. It will track the market gilts rate specified in the most recently published report by the Office of Budget Responsibility (OBR) plus a 0.15% default component. January 2023 has been published as 3.18% (inclusive of the 0.15% component), this is the rate applied effective from 1 January 2023.

KCC has no influence over these rates.

3.1.2 Administrative charge

Under section 35 of the Care Act and Regulation 10 of The Care and Support (Deferred Payment) Regulations, an amount for administration costs can be charged to people entering a Deferred Payment agreement. This amount can be added to the amount deferred or paid separately.

An exercise was completed for 2020-21 to review and recalculate the various elements of the costs which resulted in an increase to the administration fee which was endorsed at the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 4 March 2020.

The 2023-24 fee also includes an uplift by the Consumer Price Index.

The new rates will be:

Initial Fee	£385.79
Annual Fee	£249.38*

* equates to £4.78 per week and is charge from the second year onward.

Clients with *existing* deferred payment agreements in place before April 2020 are to be transitioned to the new annual fee at £10 per year.

The transitional annual fee for these existing clients with deferred payment agreement prior to April 2020 will be:

Transitional Annual Fee: £109.54

* equates to £2.10 per week and is charge from the second year onward.

4. Administration fee for self-funders – Non-Residential Care

- 4.1 The charge by KCC includes the following, cost of raising an invoice, cost of paying a provider invoice and the cost of negotiating and arranging a care package.

The annual arrangement fee will increase in line with the average Kent Pay Award figure as at April 2023, of 6.76%.

The new charge will be £127.59 which equates to £2.44 per week.

5. Better Homes Active Lives (PFI) Schemes

5.1 Non-residential charging rules will also apply to these schemes. However, when working out the cost of the care and support, an additional cost will be added to the cost of any hours of care and support.

5.1.1 Extra-care schemes for older people

This is the cost of the 24-hour emergency cover available (for example if a person falls).

The rate will be uplifted in line with CPI as at September 2022 which is 10.1%.

The rate will be £18.44 for 2023-24.

5.1.2 Schemes for people with learning difficulties

This is the cost of the sleeping night support service.

The rate will be uplifted in line with CPI as at September 2022 which is 10.1%.

The rate will be £55.29 for 2023-24.

6. Blue Badges

6.1 With effect from 1 April 1983, this charge was introduced to cover the administration of the application. The regulations governing the Blue Badge scheme give local authorities the discretion to charge a fee on the issue of a badge.

This fee currently cannot exceed £10. As from 1 January 2012, KCC has charged £10 so it will remain the same.

7 Day Care Charging for In-House Services

7.1 A standard rate applies to in-house day care charges. People who have savings under £23,250 will be assessed to see if they are able to contribute to the cost of their day care.

The standard rate for in-house day care will be increased in line with the average Kent Pay Award figure as at April 2023, of 6.76%. The rates are as shown in the table below for 2023-24.

Care Item	Unit	Revised Unit Charge
Learning Disability Standard - Day	Day	£45.42
Learning Disability Standard - Half Day	Session	£22.70
Learning Disability Enhanced - Day	Day	£102.25
Learning Disability Enhanced - Half Day	Session	£51.13
Learning Disability Specialist - Day	Day	£153.38
Learning Disability Specialist - Half Day	Session	£76.70
Older People - Day	Day	£37.20
Older People - Half Day	Session	£18.62
Physical Disability - Day	Day	£44.40
Physical Disability - Half Day	Session	£22.21
Older People with Mental Health Needs - Day	Day	£43.96

8. In House Homecare Rates

- 8.1 These are the charges applied to services provided by Kent Enablement at Home (KeaH) after the initial period of enablement ends, in instances where external provision of homecare has not been obtained.

This rate will increase in line with the average Kent Pay Award figure as at April 2023, of 6.76%. The rates for 2023-24 are as follows:

Care Item	Revised Unit Charge
Social (1/2 hour)	£9.49
Social (3/4 hour)	£12.66
Social (1 hour)	£16.43
Unsocial (1/2 hour)	£10.76
Unsocial (3/4 hour)	£14.23
Unsocial (1 hour)	£18.21

9. Fees Charged for Managing Client Financial Affairs via a Deputyship Arrangement

- 9.1 These are fees charged by KCC to clients whose finance they manage. The Court of Protection permits Corporate Deputies to charge a range of fees. The following are the fees currently charged by the Authority:

One Off Fees

Initial Fee – for clients with between £3k and £16k - 3.5% of net assets

Initial Fee – for clients with more than £16k - £745

Annual Fees

1st Year Anniversary -

For clients with between £3k and £16k - 3.5% of net assets

For clients with more than £16k - £775

Completion of a report for clients with more than £3k - £216

2nd Year Anniversary and thereafter -

For clients with between £3k and £16k - 3.5% of net assets

For clients with more than £16k - £650

Completion of a report for clients with more than £3k - £216

Kent currently charges the maximum that the Court of Protection allows Authorities to charge. These fees are reviewed by the Ministry of Justice and can be changed and published at anytime during the year.

10. Meals Charges/Other Snacks - Local Authority (LA) Day Centres

10.1 There are two meal charges: (i) meals (ii) meals and other snacks.

The rate will be uplifted in line with CPI as at September 2022 which is 10.1%. The rates for 2023-24 are as follows:

Meal Charge	£4.81
Meals and other Snacks	£5.81

10.2 For refreshments a flat rate charge of £1 is to be applied.

11 Voluntary Drivers/Escort Mileage Rates

11.1 The current rate is usually reviewed in line with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's annual budget announcement. This rate is currently set at 45p per mile.

12 Other Local Authority Charges for Review and Assessment of Adult Services

12.1 Historically there was an Inter Authority Protocol in place in relation to Inter Authority charges. This hourly charge only applied to those local authorities who are signatories to the protocol.

This rate will increase in line with the average Kent Pay Award figure as at April 2023, of 6.76%.

The hourly rate will be £85.43

13. Home Support Fund

13.1 In some instances (where extreme hardship can be evidenced) extra financial help is available from Kent County Council to top-up the help provided via Disabled Facilities Grants (administered by the District Councils). The DFG is currently subject to a means test. The loan from KCC is interest free but liable to be repaid in full, over a five-year period.

13.2 There is no change to these arrangements for 2023-24.

14. Recommendation

14.1 Recommendation: The Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** the revised rates payable and charges levied for adult social care services in 2023-24, which were agreed as part of the administration's budget presented to County Council on 9 February 2023.

15. Background Documents

None

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