

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

## DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY

Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

## DECISION NO.

15/00013

*If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972*

### Subject:

**REVISION OF RATES PAYABLE AND CHARGES LEVIED FOR ADULTS SERVICES IN 2015-16**

### Decision:

In line with the recommendations in the report on the Revision of Rates Payable and Charges Levied for Adult Services in 2015-15, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care is be asked to:

1) **AGREE** the proposed increase to the rates payable and charges levied for adult services in 2015-16 as detailed below:

- i. Client Contributions for Residential Care – Older People. Increase to **£463.07** (in line with the CPI figure as at September 2014 of 1.58%).
- ii. Client contributions for Residential Care – People with Learning Difficulties. Increase to **£631.26** (in line with the CPI figure as at September 2014 of 1.58%)
- iii. Personal Expenses Allowance – Increase to **£24.90** per week.
- iv. Wellbeing Charge – Better Homes Active Lives (PFI) Schemes. Extra-care schemes for Older People. The new rate for 2015-16 will be **£15.00**.
- v. Wellbeing Charge – Better Homes Active Lives (PFI) Schemes. Schemes for People with Learning Difficulties. Increase to **£44.92** (in line with the CPI figure as at September 2014 of 1.58%).
- vi. Notional Charges for Day Care. Increase as shown below ( in line with the CPI figure as at September 2014 of 1.58%):

Care Item	Unit	Proposed Unit Charge (notional cost)
Learning Disability – day centre	Day	<b>£37.64</b>
Learning Disability – Day Centre half day	Session	<b>£18.82</b>
Older People – Day Centre	Day	<b>£29.99</b>
Older People – Day Centre Half Day	Session	<b>£15.00</b>
Physical Disability – Day Centre	Day	<b>£35.80</b>
Physical Disability – Day Centre Half Day	Session	<b>£17.90</b>
Older People with Mental Health Needs – Day Centre	Day	<b>£35.45</b>

- vii. Meal Charges – Local Authority Day Centres. Increase to **£3.90** (in line with the CPI figure as at September 2014 of 1.58%).
- viii. Meals and other snacks – Local Authority Day Centres. Increase to **£4.90** (in line with the CPI figure as at September 2014 of 1.58%).

ix. Inter- Authority Charges - It is proposed to apply an hourly rate of **£67.74** which allows for the percentage increase for the pay award uplift excluding any performance reward element for 2015-16.

2) **AGREE** the introduction of the Deferred Payment Scheme from April 2015

3) **AGREE** that the Corporate Director for Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other suitable delegated officer, undertake the necessary actions to implement this decision.

**Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information**

The proposed rates payable and charges levied are considered annually, with any revisions normally introduced at the start of each financial year.

This decision relates to Adult Social Services and the rates and charges that are currently in place, with the Children's Social Services being addressed in a separate decision.

The rates and charges payable for 2015/16 will be introduced in the week commencing 6 April 2015. This has been confirmed with the Department of Health.

The accompanying report distinguishes between those rates and charges over which Members can exercise their discretion, and those which are laid down by Parliament.

**Financial Implications:**

The increase in income and the increase in payments that these changes will bring have been included in the 12 February 2015 County Council agreed budgets for the services affected.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

The proposed decision was discussed at the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 3 March 2015. Officers were in attendance for this item and set out the proposed rates and charges for Adult Social Care Services for the forthcoming financial year, including proposed changes to the social care policy on Deferred Payments.

In response to comments and questions officers said that:

- (a) Financial support from the Council for residential care was means tested and was re-assessed every year;
- (b) Where one partner was in care, the income of the other was not taken into account; and
- (c) Under the Deferred Payments Scheme interest was applied to the debt as it accrued.

The Cabinet Committee then resolved that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health be endorsed.

**Background Documents:**

Report on Proposed Revision of Rates Payable and Charges Levied for Adults Services in 2015-16 to the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee Meeting on 3 March 2015.

**Any alternatives considered:**

As noted, elements of these revisions are set by external agencies and are not subject to discretion.

For the discretionary elements, alternative % increases were considered but, as in previous years, the respective recommended uplifts equivalent to CPI (1.58% average between April and Sept 14), as the best balance between increases and the agreed budget available.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the

Proper Officer:

None



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signed

6 MARCH 2015

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date

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			

