

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY

Cabinet Member for
Specialist Children's Services

DECISION NO.

16/00133

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: PROPOSED REVISION OF RATES PAYABLE AND CHARGES LEVIED FOR CHILDRENS SERVICES IN 2017-18

Decision: In line with the recommendations in the report on the Proposed Revision of Rates Payable and Charges Levied for Children's Services in 2017-18, as Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services I propose to:

a) APPROVE:

- i. The increase to:

All Placements under 2	£148.62
All Placements 2-4	£152.92
All Placements 5-8	£170.15
All Placements 9-10	£170.15
All Placements 11-15	£192.77
All Placements 16-17	£227.23
All Placements 18+	£227.23

- ii. The Foster Care Reward element to increase to:

Non related placements 0-8 yrs	- £110.29
Non related placements 9-18 yrs	- £209.49

- iii. The Foster Care Skills based payment increase to:

Level 2	- £20.43
Level 3	- £51.05

- iv. The Single placement supplement increase to:

Age 0-8 yr	- £220.58
Age 9-18 yrs	- £418.98

- v. To increase the Therapeutic Fostering Supplement to:£646.21

- vi. For Local Authority Charges for Children Services:
- vii. Assessment hourly rate to increase to £70.27 per hour.
- viii. Administration Fee increase to £10.46

b) NOTE

- ix. The rates which are dictated by external agencies i.e Inter-agency charges and Essential Living Allowance.

c) CONFIRM

- x. The charge for other Local Authorities for use of in-house respite residential beds is to be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery.

d) DELEGATE authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the 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.

The report is focused on Children’s Services and the rates and charges that are currently in place, with the Adult’s Social Care Services presented separately.

The rates and charges payable for 2017/18 will be introduced the week commencing 1 April 2017. This has been confirmed with the Department of Education.

Legal Implications

The 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 9 February 2017 County Council agreed budgets for the services affected.

Equality Implications

None

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision will be discussed at the Children’s Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 23 March 2017 and the outcome included in the paperwork which the Cabinet Member will be asked to sign.

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 % were considered but, established principles of using the previous September CPI figure was retained, with one exception where a higher increase is recommended for the Foster Carer Reward element

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

None

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signed

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date