

Summary Sheet

Council Report: Cabinet/Commissioner Decision Making Meeting

Date: 14 March 2016

Title: In- House Residential Care Charges 2016/17

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

Yes

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Graeme Betts – Interim Director of Adult Services and Housing

Report Author(s)

Mark Scarrott – Finance Manager – Adult Services and Housing

Ward(s) Affected

Rawmarsh, Dinnington, Maltby, Wath and Wingfield

Summary

The Council has a statutory duty to set a maximum charge for residential accommodation provided in Local Authority Homes. This charge has to reflect the costs of providing residential care which includes expenditure such as running costs and management overheads.

This report recommends no increase to the charge to service users for the provision of in-house elderly residential care for 2016/17 and a reduction in charge for non-elderly residential care based on the actual cost of providing the service.

Recommendations

That Cabinet/Commissioners:-

- **Receive the information contained in this report.**
- **Approve that there is no increase to the weekly maximum charge for In-House residential care for the elderly for 2016/17.**
- **That the charges for non-elderly in-house residential and respite provision are approved as shown in Appendix A.**

List of Appendices Included

Yes – Appendix A

Background Papers

None

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Main Report

Title: In-House Residential Care Charges 2016/17

1. Recommendations

That Cabinet/Commissioners:-

- **Receive the information contained in this report.**
- **Approve that there is no increase to the weekly maximum charge for In-House residential care for the elderly for 2016/17.**
- **That the charges for non-elderly in-house residential and respite provision are approved as shown in Appendix A.**

2. Background

2.1 In accordance with its statutory duty, the Council is required to set a maximum charge for residential accommodation it provides in Local Authority Homes for:

- Those service users who refuse to provide details of their financial circumstances.
- Those service users who have been financially assessed according to their ability to pay and as a result are required to pay the maximum charge i.e. have savings/assets of more than £23,250. Currently this affects 16 people.
- Those service users who are placed and financially supported by another Local Authority. Currently this affects 1 person.

2.2 All other service users with savings of less than £23,250 will be financially assessed according to the income they receive which is generally made up of retirement pension and/or other welfare benefits. The average client contribution is currently around £248 per week.

3. Key Issues

3.1 The Directorate is required to review its fees and charges as part of the annual budget setting process.

4. Options considered and recommended proposal

4.1 Homes for Older People

4.1.1 Option 1 – no increase (Preferred Option)

The Council operates two residential care homes with a mix of residential, EMI and intermediate care provision. The services are currently under review as part of the Adult Services development programme and therefore it is proposed that the maximum charge for all local authority residential care homes remains the same as is currently charged at £550 per week.

There are currently 17 people are required to pay the maximum charge.

4.1.2 Option 2 – increase by 2.9%

This option would increase the maximum charge in line with the increase in welfare benefits of 2.9%. The maximum chargeable would increase from £550 to £566 per week and would generate approximately £13,300 additional income in a full year based on the current number of service users who pay full cost.

4.2 **Homes for clients with a Learning Disability**

- 4.2.1 The proposed revised charges for clients with Learning Disabilities has limited immediate impact as there is currently only 1 client paying the full cost. Attached at Appendix A are details of the proposed revised charges. These charges reflect the actual unit costs of providing the services which have reduced since last year and is therefore reflected in the revised charge for 2016/17.

5. **Consultation**

- 5.1 No consultation is required where charges remain the same or are reduced.

6. **Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

- 6.1 The recommendations once agreed will be effective from April 2016.

7. **Financial and Procurement Implications**

- 7.1 The Directorate is required to review its fees and charges as part of the annual budget setting process. In previous years changes have been aligned with the increase in welfare benefits which for older people which will increase by 2.9% from April 2016. To increase the maximum charge in line with this increase would widen the gap between in-house charges and those been consulted on with independent sector providers, which is currently £149 per week for residential care. The preferred option is therefore not to increase the maximum charge for 2016/17.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 There are no legal implications.

9. Human Resources Implications

9.1 This report has no direct implications for human resources for Rotherham MBC

10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

10.1 There are no implications for children and young people as a result of the recommendation made in this report.

11 Equalities and Human Rights Implications

11.1 The recommendations in this report if accepted contribute to supporting the viability of Rotherham's care homes that support vulnerable older people and the provision of high quality care.

12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

12.1 There are no implications for partners or other directorates.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 In accordance with established practice, all the charges are based on estimated cost and occupancy levels, so that residents can be advised of the revised charges as near to the date they become effective. It should also be noted that the actual full costs may be higher than those proposed due to further reductions in occupancy levels or due to a change in the number of service users paying full cost.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Approvals Obtained from:-

Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services:-

Director of Legal Services:- Linton Steele

Head of Procurement (if appropriate):- N/A

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<http://modern.gov.rotherham.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories=>

Adult Services

IN HOUSE RESIDENTIAL CARE CHARGES – 2016/2017

1.1 Maximum Charge for people accommodated in residential care homes

SERVICE	Budgeted Occupancy Levels	Charges 2015/2016	Charges 2016/2017	Change in Maximum Charge from 2015/16
	%	£	£	£
Homes for the Elderly	98	550.00	550.00	0
Non Elderly :-				
Parkhill Lodge	98	672.17	637.17	-35.00
Quarryhill Road	95	1453.57	1438.12	-15.45
Treefield Close	95	1453.57	1438.12	-15.45

NB. The maximum charges for Non-elderly homes are based on the economic costs of providing the service.