



Adult social Care Select Committee
10 April 2015

**Care Act Implementation: Revised Charging Policy and
Deferred Payment Policy for Adult Social Care**

Purpose of the report: Scrutiny of Services and Budgets/ /Policy
Development and Review

In response to the Care Act 2014 both Surrey County Council's Charging and Deferred Payment Policies required review. Following consultation, revised policies were put before the Cabinet for approval. This report outlines for the Select Committee the Cabinet's decision and the Council's revised policies.

Summary:

1. At the Cabinet meeting on 25 November 2014, it was agreed that the Council would consult on the proposals to revise the charging policy and deferred payment agreement policy for adult social care.
2. Following a seven week consultation, a further report was presented to the Cabinet on 24 February 2015 recommending the revised policies. The Cabinet report containing the reasons for the recommendations and the full policies is found in Annex A.
3. The Cabinet agreed the recommendations within the report and consequently the revised policies.
4. The key elements of the revised charging policy are:
 - 4.1 The Council continues to charge for residential and nursing care and non-residential services
 - 4.2 When a person (known as a full-cost payer) has capital above the upper capital limit, (currently £23,250) and the council has a duty to make arrangements for their care and support needs to be met in a residential or nursing care home, or the council is requested to meet the person's needs in their own home, local authorities may charge an arrangement fee. From 1 April 2015, adult social care will charge an

arrangement fee to any person whose needs are to be met in a residential or nursing home and who is required to pay the full-cost of their care. The average set up cost of putting arrangements in place is equivalent to £265 per placement with an annual charge of £75. These charges will be subject to annual review.

4.3 From 1 April 2015, the Council will increase the percentage of available income taken in charges from the current 80% to 90% for people receiving care and support at home.

4.4 Income from capital will be disregarded for those people receiving care and support at home.

4.5 As previously, the council will not charge for carer's services

5. The key elements of the revised deferred payments policy are:

5.1 The Council will also consider applications for a Deferred Payment Agreement for those people moving into supported living type accommodation as defined in the regulations, where the person intends to retain their former home and pay their accommodation and care costs from a deferred payment. These applications will be considered on a case by case basis but all other aspects of the Deferred Payment Policy will apply

5.2 A contribution from the person's income, savings or other assets will be required but must leave the person with up to £144 per week if the person wishes to retain this sum

5.3 Compound interest on any amount deferred will be charged from the start of the agreement until the debt is repaid. The Council will charge interest at the maximum amount specified in regulations. From 1 April 2015 will be 2.65%

5.4 An administration fee will be charged to cover the cost of the scheme. It will include any reasonable costs incurred by the council in relation to the deferred payment agreement. The full schedule of charges is attached to Annex 4 of the Cabinet report – The Deferred Payment Agreement Policy.

Recommendations:

6. It is recommended that the Adult Social Care Select Committee note the report and the revised Charging and Deferred Payment Policies.

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Sources/background papers:

Annex A: Cabinet Report; containing:

- Annex 1: Summary of the consultation responses
- Annex 2: Charging Policy
- Annex 3: Comparison with other local authorities
- Annex 4: Deferred Payment Policy
- Annex 5: EIA Charging Policy
- Annex 6: EIA Deferred Payment Agreement Policy

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