

## Responses to the Charging Policy consultation 2016

We issued consultation documents to 6,992 people currently in receipt of chargeable services at home.

### Proposal 1 : Power to make a charge for putting arrangements in place

The council is proposing to charge an arrangement fee to those people who are able to pay the full cost of their care and support at home but who, nevertheless, ask the council to make the arrangements with the relevant provider

#### Question 1. Do you agree that the council should charge an administrative fee to those people able to pay the full cost of their care?

Responses		Totals
Strongly Agree	142	612
Agree	470	
Neither agree nor disagree	352	352
Disagree	265	662
Strongly disagree	396	
Not answered	24	
		1649

**Summary:** The majority of people who returned the questionnaire either agree that the council should charge an administrative fee, or have not expressed a view on the matter. 41% of respondents disagreed with the proposal.

### Proposal 2: Percentage of available income taken in charges

The council is proposing to increase the amount of available income taken into account in charges from 90% to 100%.

#### Question 2. Do you agree that the council should increase income taken into account 100%

Responses		Totals
Strongly Agree	59	290
Agree	231	
Neither agree nor disagree	320	320
Disagree	420	1012
Strongly disagree	582	
Not answered	27	27
		1649

**Summary:** 39% of people who responded either agree that the council should increase the % of available income, or did not express a view on the matter. 61% of respondents disagree with the proposal. The latter figure increased to 67% when responses were analysed to look at those people who currently pay a contribution and would be directly impacted by this proposal.

**Proposal 3: Include the full rate of Attendance Allowance/Disability Living Allowance (Care Component)/Personal Independence Payment (daily living component) in the calculation of income.**

The Council currently disregards £27.20 per week, equivalent to the 'night-time' support element of both higher rate Attendance Allowance and the higher rate Disability Living Allowance Care Component when calculating available income for care and support at home. This disregard has also been applied to the 'enhanced' rate of PIP daily living component. We are proposing to take the full rate of these benefits into account when calculating available income.

**Question 3. Do you agree that the council should include the full rate of these benefits into account in the calculation of income?**

Responses		Totals
Strongly Agree	49	
Agree	218	267
Neither agree nor disagree	337	337
Disagree	387	
Strongly disagree	621	1008
Not answered	37	37
		1649

**Summary:** 39% of people who responded either agree that the council should include the rate of these benefits, or did not express a view on the matter. 61% of respondents disagree with the proposal.

**Proposal 4: Removal of the £20 per week disregard when charging for respite care**

When the Council works out a person's ability to contribute towards respite care, in addition to allowing for reasonable household expenditure, the Council disregards £20 per week. We are proposing to remove the disregard from the respite charging policy.

**Question 4. Do you agree that the council should remove the £20 per week disregard under the respite charging policy?**

Responses		Totals
Strongly Agree	51	
Agree	210	261
Neither agree nor disagree	400	400
Disagree	420	
Strongly disagree	515	935
Not answered	53	53
		1649

**Summary:** 43% of people who responded either agree that the council should remove the disregard, or did not express a view on the matter. 57% of respondents disagree with the proposal.