

## Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	21/06/18
Originator	Jane Ogden-Smith
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	Non-residential Charging Policy for Social Care Services 2018/19

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Additional information:

Authorised By	Alison Macdonald
Designation	Int. Director, Health & Social Care
Date	26/07/18

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**REPORT TO:** Members' Library Service

**MEETING DATE:**

**BY:** Director of Health and Social Care

**SUBJECT:** Non-Residential Social Care Services 2018/19 – New and Revised Charges, and Updated Policy

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To inform members that the Charging Policy for Non-Residential Social Care Services 2018/19 has been updated.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the updated Charging Policy on Non-Residential Social Care Services, approved by the Director of the East Lothian Health & Social Care Partnerships under Scheme of Delegation section 1 (7) of the Joint Working (Public Bodies) (Scotland) Act 2014.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Council agreed on the 13 February 2018 that the strategic budget for the adult social care part of the Health & Social Care Partnership budget should include additional income for 2018/19 of £358,000 to be realised from a combination of increases to existing charges and the introduction of new charges.
- 3.2 New social care charges were approved by Cabinet on 13 March 2018 and changes to existing charges have been approved under delegated powers in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.
- 3.3 The Health and Social Care Partnership has a well-established charging group with multi-stakeholder membership. This group oversaw the updating of the social care charging policy in 2017/18. The group has met regularly in order to play an important role in the development and assessment of proposals which would realise the income generation agreed by the Council.

- 3.4 A benchmarking exercise was undertaken using a variety of sources. All of these sources together confirm that with a 15% increase to the existing charges as well as the change in the taper up by 20%, East Lothian Council will still be in the middle or lower half of the range of Councils as a charging authority.
- 3.5 Detailed financial modelling has been undertaken in order to realistically calculate the income which will result from the increase of these charges. Crucially the financial modelling has also involved the undertaking of a detail analysis of clients using our services in order to understand the impact on different clients depending on their financial circumstances and the services that they currently use.
- 3.6 In addition to the work through the multi-stakeholder charging group a consultation page was developed to follow on from the Council consultation exercise on the proposed Council budget. The consultation ran for one month and finished on the 20 February with 99 people having responded. A summary of the results is that 72% strongly agree (18%) or tend to agree (54%) that increasing charges / introducing charges is acceptable if it means services can continue to be delivered. 80% strongly agree (22%) or tend to agree (58%) that charges for social care services in East Lothian should be in line with the Scottish average. 65% strongly agree (35%) or tend to agree (30%) that those who can afford to should pay a bit more for social care services they receive. 94% strongly agree (70%) or tend to agree (24%) that help should be available to make sure people paying for services receive the financial support they are entitled to.
- 3.7 As well as the multi-stakeholder group three public meetings were held at the three resource centres, to provide information about the budget and charging policy processes, to listen to concerns, suggestions and answer questions. Two meetings were held in the evening and one during the day. These were all well attended by carers, service users, and workers. There will be on-going review of the council's social care charging regime to ensure delivery of the three year budget targets for charging income. This will also include further impact assessment, further benchmarking, exploring further potential for new chargeable services and exploring new models of charging in other Councils.
- 3.8 The charging group will continue to meet to be part of the charging review process and will consider such issues as: policy wording, development of accessible versions, a formalised appeals process, a review of disregards, and an improved financial assessment form and annual financial assessment process.

## **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Non-Residential Social Care Charging Policy 2018/19 is compliant with the 2018/19 COSLA guidance.

## 5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and no negative impacts have been identified – please see:

[https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/13039/non-residential\\_social\\_care\\_charges\\_2018-19](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/13039/non-residential_social_care_charges_2018-19)

## 6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial – The policy delivers the Council’s budgetary requirements.
- 6.2 Personnel - none
- 6.3 Other - none

## 7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Charging Policy for Non-Residential Social Care 2018/19 –  
[https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210583/assessment\\_and\\_support/11846/adult\\_social\\_care\\_charging\\_policy/1](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210583/assessment_and_support/11846/adult_social_care_charging_policy/1)
- 7.2 East Lothian Council meeting of 13 February 2018.  
[https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/6064/east\\_lothian\\_council](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/6064/east_lothian_council)

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