

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL
PORTFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION
by
COUNTY COUNCILLOR STEPHEN HAYES
(PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE) AND
COUNTY COUNCILLOR ALED DAVIES (PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR FINANCE)
March 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: Senior Awards & Support Officer

SUBJECT: Increase in charges for Community Based Services

REPORT FOR: Decision / Discussion / Information

1. Summary

The maximum charge for Community Based Social Care Services is set by the Welsh Government. It is currently £70 per week and has been since April 2017.

The maximum charge will increase to £100 per week by the end of the current Assembly Government in 2021. This increase is part of the Taking Wales Forward Commitment.

There is likely to be an incremental increase each financial year. Welsh Government plan to announce the increase prior to April annually in readiness for the start of each financial year.

Welsh Government have announced an increase to the maximum charge from £70 to £80 per week for April 2018. Cabinet approved in March 2018 that future increases in line with Welsh Government maximum charge increases should be agreed by a portfolio holder delegated decision.

This report proposes that Powys increase the maximum charge from £70 to £80 per week with effect from 14th April 2018. This report further proposes to increase the maximum charge annually on 1st April from 2019 until 2021 in line with the maximum set by the Welsh Government.

2. Proposal

This report recommends Powys increases the maximum weekly charge for Community Based Social Care Services, in line with the set maximum charge set by the Welsh Government to £80 per week with effect from 14th April 2018. This report further proposes to increase the maximum charge annually on 1st April from 2019 until 2021 in line with the maximum set by the Welsh Government.

3. Options Considered / Available

Option 1

That Powys increases the maximum charge from £70 to £80 per week in line with the Welsh Government maximum charge for community-based services and to follow the Welsh Government's increases annually up to 2021.

Option 2

The maximum charge remains at £70 per week.

4. Preferred Choice and Reasons

The recommended option is Option 1.

Increasing the charge in line with the Welsh Government set maximum amount will maintain the sustainability of the service.

5. Impact Assessment

5.1 Is an impact assessment required? Yes

5.2 If yes is it attached? Yes

6. Corporate Improvement Plan

6.1 This proposal will maximise income generation in line with national policy.

7. Local Member(s)

7.1 This proposal will have the same impact across the whole County of Powys.

8. Other Front Line Services

8.1 Does the recommendation impact on other services run by the Council or on behalf of the Council? Yes

If so please provide their comments

8.2 There will be an impact on the work of the Income and Awards section which has been involved in preparing this report.

9. Communications

Have Communications seen a copy of this report? Yes

Have they made a comment? If Yes insert here.

10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

10.1 Legal; The recommendation can be supported from a legal point of view

10.2 Finance – The Finance Business Partner notes the content of the report and supports the recommendation. It is essential that income is maximised but the impact is unknown until revised financial assessments are undertaken for all service users.

11. Scrutiny

Has this report been scrutinised? No

However, the Cabinet report was scrutinised and agreed fully by scrutiny.

12. Statutory Officers

12.1 The Acting Section 151 Officer agrees that Option 1 will ensure the authority's income is maximised.

12.2 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: "I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report".

13. Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report.

14. Future Status of the Report

The view of the Monitoring Officer is that this report is not confidential.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
That Powys increases the maximum weekly charge for Community Based Social Care Services, in line with the set maximum charge set by the Welsh	To maintain the sustainability of the service.

<p>Government to £80 per week from 14th April 2018.</p> <p>For Powys to increase the maximum charge annually on 1st April from 2019 until 2021 in line with the maximum set by the Welsh Government.</p>	
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Relevant Policy (ies):	The Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	N/A
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Head of Transformation
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	14TH April 2018

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Background Papers used to prepare Report: