

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**CABINET EXECUTIVE
14 March 2017**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Stephen Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

SUBJECT: Increase in charges for Community Based Services

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Summary

The maximum charge for Community Based Social Care Services is set by the Welsh Government. It is currently £60 per week and was last increased from £55.00 to £60.00 in April 2015, and remained at £60 in April 2016 when the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 was implemented.

The Welsh Government have increased the maximum amount a Local Authority can charge to £70 per week with effect from April 2017.

The consultation undertaken on daytime activities made it clear that attendees at day centres would be willing to pay more for the service if that would support their ongoing sustainability.

2. Proposal

This report sets out and recommends that Powys increases its maximum weekly charge to £70 per week.

It also recommends a proposed uplift to charges for attendance at Older Day Centre and Day & Employment centre and an increase in charges for meals provided at Day Centres.

3. One Powys Plan

The One Powys Plan recognises that the Council is facing significant budget reductions and the estimated number of people aged over 80 in Powys is rising. The proportion of residents aged over 80 is predicted to increase from 6.5% in 2012 to 14% in 2036. If we are to make the service sustainable then we need to charge those residents who have the ability to contribute to the possible increased cost of care.

4. Options Considered/Available

Option 1

Maintain existing charges for Community Based Services:

- £10 per day for Daycentre attendance
- £5 for meals at the daycentre, which includes light refreshments and tea / coffee
- Maximum charge of £60 per week
- £20.50 per hour for home care up to the maximum charge.

Option 2

Increase the maximum charge for Community Based Services from £60 to £70 per week. This includes short term respite placements in a care home. The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 stipulates the maximum charge, which the Welsh Government have increased to £70 per week from April 2017.

Option 3

Increase the daily charge for attendance at Older People's Day Centres and Day and Employment Daycentre from £10 to £15 per day.

Option 4

Increase the charge for meals provided at the Older Daycentre from £5 to £7.50 per day.

Option 5

Increase the hourly rate for Domiciliary Care (Home care), as set out in the table below, up to a maximum of £60 per week.

Service	2016/17	2017/18
Domiciliary Care (Home care)	£20.50 per hour (up to a maximum of £60 per week)	£21.00 per hour (up to a maximum of £70 per week)

5. Preferred Choice and Reasons

The recommended options are to fully implement Option 2, Option 3 and Option 4.

Adoption of these options would enable future charges to reflect inflationary cost pressures faced by the Council in providing care.

Option 2

The recommendation of Adult Services is that the Council accepts option 2 and increases the maximum charge for Community Based Services. Service Users will still have the option to undertake a means test which will look at their affordability to pay towards their care. Around one third of Community Based Service Users do not pay towards the cost of their services following a financial means test.

Option 3

The recommendation of Adult Services is that the Council accepts option 3 and increases the daily charge for Daycentre attendance to £15 per day. Service Users will still have the option to undertake a means test which will look at their affordability to pay towards their care. Around one third of Community Based Service Users do not pay towards the cost of their services following a financial means test.

It is estimated this will increase income by £30.2k per annum.

Option 4

The recommendation of Adult Services is that the Council accepts option 4 and increases the charge for meals at Older Daycentres to £7.50 per day. This charge includes light refreshments such as tea / coffee with cake and biscuits. This is a flat rate and charge that falls outside of the scope of the means test.

The total cost of providing meals at day centres (using 2015/6 figures) is £244,932. The income at the current price of £5 per meal (this includes tea/coffee in the morning, 2 course meal, tea and cake in the afternoon) is £102,356. The average unit cost for each meal (as described above to include the teas/cake etc.) is £10.83.

Option 5

The recommendation of Adult Services is that the Council does not increase the hourly rate for home care from £20.50 to £21.00 per hour. In view of the £70 maximum charge the increased income would be negligible and the challenge of applying the increase would be significant.

6. Impact Assessment

6.1 Is an impact assessment required? Yes

6.2 If yes is it attached? Yes

7. Local Member(s)

The impact of these proposals will be county wide.

8. Other Front Line Services

Does the recommendation impact on other services? Yes

This report was co-written between Adult Social Care and Income & Awards, upon whom there will also be an impact.

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

9.1 Legal: The recommendation can be supported from a legal point of view.

- 9.2 Finance: The Finance Business Partner can confirm
- That the increase to the maximum charge for Community Based Services from £60 to £70 per week is in line with Welsh Government legislation. This includes short term respite placements in a care home which is in line with the recommendation in the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. This will generate approximately £239k additional income and will mitigate the 2016/17 income shortfall in the baseline budget of changes around charging for a residential respite placement, previously assessed and charged under 'CRAG', but from April 6th 2016 must be treated as a Community Based Service. This means that service users following a financial assessment may receive a free service or pay up to a maximum charge of £70 per week for a single episode of care. Also services for carers being non chargeable. Previously estimated as a shortfall in income to baseline budget of £141k but in reality is approximately £250k.
 - The increase in Day Centre attendance charge will generate approximately £30k additional income.
 - The increase in charge for a meal at an Older Day Centre will generate approximately £50k, which will mitigate the current shortfall in the cost of producing and the additional inflationary costs re staffing, utilities and groceries in 2017/18.
- 9.3 Communications: The report is of public interest and requires the use of a news release and appropriate social media to publicise the recommendation/decision.
- 9.4 Corporate Property (if appropriate)
N/A
- 9.5 HR
No comment applicable from HR, no staffing issues.
- 9.6 ICT (if appropriate)
N/A

10. Public Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

There are no wider implications

11. Pre- Scrutiny

Comments from pre-scrutiny. (To be completed by Scrutiny Officers)

12. Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director Resources (S151 Officer) notes the comments made by finance and adds the increase takes advantage of the changes permitted by Welsh Government and is in line with the Council's income policy.

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. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
Fully implement options 2, 3 and 4	To take advantage of the opportunity provided by Welsh Government to provide additional income to support the funding of the service.

Relevant Policy (ies):	The Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	Councillor Stephen Hayes
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Dylan Owen
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	1st April 2017

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Email:
Dylan Owen	01597826578	dylan.owen@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

Appendix A

Proposed new table of charges:

Service	2016/17	2017/18
Attendance at Day Centre/Day and Employment Centre	£10 per day	£15 per day
Domiciliary Care (Home Care)	£20.50 per hour (up to a maximum of £60 per week as set by Welsh Government)	£20.50 per hour (up to a maximum of £70 per week as set by Welsh Government)
Learning Disability services in the community	£20.50 per hour (up to a maximum of £60 per week as set by Welsh Government)	£20.50 per hour (up to a maximum of £70 per week as set by Welsh Government)
24 hour Support (Supported Tenancy)	£70.00 per week	£70.00 per week
Shared Lives (long term placement)	£60.00 per week per single episode of respite care	£70.00 per week per single episode of respite care
Shared Lives (short term/respite placements)	£60.00 per week per single episode of respite care	£70.00 per week per single episode of respite care
Respite i.e. a stay not exceeding 8 weeks	£60.00 per week per single episode of respite care	£70.00 per week per single episode of respite care
Package of care i.e. a range of services - maximum	£60.00 per week (as set by Welsh Government)	Up to a maximum of £70.00 per week (as set by Welsh Government)