

West Berkshire Council

Equity Impact Assessment

March 2023

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Section 1: Summary details

Directorate and Service Area	People (ASC) Adult Social Care & Public Health
What is being assessed (e.g. name of policy, procedure, project, service or proposed service change).	To increase the following Adult Social Care fees above the normal rate of inflation increase to bring them more in line with what it cost to provide the service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport fees – to increase the charge from £3.75 per trip to £5.00 per trip as per the original proposal last year • Deferred Payment set up fee – to increase this from £886 to £1200 • Deferred Payment annual fee – to increase this from £310 to £400 per annum • Full cost client administration fee – to increase this from £286 to £365 per annum.
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	existing
Summary of assessment Briefly summarise the policy or proposed service change. Summarise possible impacts. Does the proposal bias, discriminate or unfairly disadvantage individuals or groups within the community? (following completion of the assessment).	To increase the following Adult Social Care fees above the normal rate of inflation increase to bring them more in line with what it cost to provide the service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport fees – to increase the charge from £3.75 per trip to £5.00 per trip as per the original proposal last year • Deferred Payment set up fee – to increase this from £886 to £1200 • Deferred Payment annual fee – to increase this from £310 to £400 per annum • Full cost client administration fee – to increase this from £286 to £365 per annum. Individuals will be required to pay more.
Completed By	Jo England

Authorised By	Paul Coe
Date of Assessment	18.10.24

Section 2: Detail of proposal

<p>Context / Background</p> <p>Briefly summarise the background to the policy or proposed service change, including reasons for any changes from previous versions.</p>	<p>The Care Act 2014 governs what services the Council should provide as part of an individual's care package, what services the Council does not need to provide and how the Council can charge for these services.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance</p> <p>To increase the following Adult Social Care fees above the normal rate of inflation increase to bring them more in line with what it cost to provide the service.</p>
<p>Proposals</p> <p>Explain the detail of the proposals, including why this has been decided as the best course of action.</p>	<p>To increase the following Adult Social Care fees above the normal rate of inflation increase to bring them more in line with what it cost to provide the service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport fees – to increase the charge from £3.75 per trip to £5.00 per trip as per the original proposal last year • Deferred Payment set up fee – to increase this from £886 to £1200 • Deferred Payment annual fee – to increase this from £310 to £400 per annum • Full cost client administration fee – to increase this from £286 to £365 per annum.

<p>Evidence / Intelligence</p> <p>List and explain any data, consultation outcomes, research findings, feedback from service users and stakeholders etc, that supports your proposals and can help to inform the judgements you make about potential impact on different individuals, communities or groups and our ability to deliver our climate commitments.</p>	<p>The original proposal for the transport costs that were introduced last year was to charge £5 per trip but this was reduced to £3.75 per trip when it was implemented last year. The new proposed cost is still far less than the at actual cost of providing the service.</p> <p>The other 3 cost increases relate to clients who have capital over the upper capital threshold of £23250 and the proposed increases are to make these fees cost neutral.</p>
<p>Alternatives considered / rejected</p> <p>Summarise any other approaches that have been considered in developing the policy or proposed service change, and the reasons why these were not adopted. This could include reasons why doing nothing is not an option.</p>	<p>The alternative is to do nothing or to only increase in line with inflation.</p> <p>This would mean that we are still heavily subsidising these services.</p>

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Protected Characteristics

Protected Characteristic	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of Impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner* (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Part of this proposal could affect any client over the age over of 18 who receives a transport service from Adult Social Care service as they may be required to pay more for the service that they currently receive.</p> <p>The other elements will affect mainly old clients who own properties or who have assets above the upper capital threshold of £23,250.</p>		Jo England	April 2025
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Part of this proposal could affect any client who receives a transport service from Adult Social Care as they may be required to pay more for the service that they currently receive.</p> <p>The other elements will affect mainly old clients who own</p>		Jo England	April 2025

				properties or who have assets above the upper capital threshold of £23,250			
Gender Reassignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Marriage & Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pregnancy & Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sexual Orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Religion or Belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Additional Community Impacts

Additional community impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner (* Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Rural communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Areas of deprivation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Displaced communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Care experienced people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Part of this proposal could affect any client who receives a transport service from Adult Social Care as they may be required to pay more for the service that they currently receive.</p> <p>The other elements will affect mainly old clients who own properties or who have assets above the upper capital threshold of £23,250</p>		Jo England	April 2025
The Armed Forces Community	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Section 4: Review

Where bias, negative impact or disadvantage is identified, the proposal and/or implementation can be adapted or changed; meaning there is a need for regular review. This review may also be needed to reflect additional data and evidence for a fuller assessment (proportionate to the decision in question). Please state the agreed review timescale for the identified impacts of the policy implementation or service change.

Review Date	1 December 2024
Person Responsible for Review	Jo England
Authorised By	Paul Coe