

Please reply to:

E-mail: Financialcharges2022.consultation@enfield.gov.uk

Phone:

Fax:

My Ref: CXM/DW

Your Ref: FinanceChargesConsultation

Date: 26th January 2022

Dear

Adult Social Care Charging Policy 2022/23 Consultation

Every year the Council updates its charging policy for Adult Social Care Services. Most Adult Social Care services are means tested which means that when you begin to receive them, the Council will complete a financial assessment with you. This assessment will tell us the amount you will have to pay, if anything, towards the cost of your services.

The money which the Council receives through these charges helps to pay for social care services for some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

The Charging Policy explains how we will work with you to complete the financial assessment process. It tells you which types of service are free (and do not need a financial assessment) and which services are means tested (so do need a financial assessment).


We are writing to you or to the person who represents you to ask for your views on the Adult Social Care Charging Policy for the coming financial year (from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.)

We understand that documents like these can sometimes be difficult to read so we have tried to make it as simple as possible. You can view it online

www.enfield.gov.uk/AdultSocialCareConsultations

Tony Theodoulou
Executive Director People
Enfield Council
Civic Centre, Silver Street
Enfield EN1 3XY

www.enfield.gov.uk

 If you need this document in another language or format contact the service using the details above.

We have also tried to make the way you give your comments back to us as simple as possible. For example, if you have a computer and an email account you can give us your feedback on-line. We know that some people do not have a computer, though or access to the internet so paper copies of the proposed policy will be available in all Enfield Council libraries and a pre-paid envelope is included with this letter so that you can write back to us to tell us what you think if that is easier for you to do.

Some of the information we need to put into the policy, we receive from the government. For example, there is something called the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) which is an amount of money you must have left after any social care charges have been taken. This is money that you need to pay for important things like food, gas and electricity costs, for example. This can change dependent on your individual situation, including your age and the disability benefits that you receive.

If any of the information in the charging policy has to change as a result of information provided by the government and it is discretionary (so it is a decision that the Council can make), then whatever amount or calculation is more generous will be used.

In addition, the Council is looking at the amounts of money it awards as part of its Disability Related Expenditure (DRE) policy. This is an allowance we make for increased costs that people pay as a result of disability or illness. For example, increased heating costs.

We also want to ask you for your feedback on how we send you bills for residential care. Last year we billed residential care annually. We would like your feedback on how that worked for you and if you preferred receiving one bill with yearly instalments or do you prefer to be notified every four weeks of the amount you have been assessed to pay.

Below is summary of the areas where there is or could be a change from 2021/22:

1. Section 5.5 Disability Related Expenditure (DRE) – we propose to increase the threshold amount where evidence of expenditure is not required by 2.5%.
2. Section 5.6 The Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) - If any of the information in the charging policy has to change as a result of information provided by the government and it is discretionary (so it is a decision that the Council can

make), then whatever amount or calculation is more generous will be used.

3. Section 6.2 Permanent Residential Care – we have amended our policy to make it clearer where a mandatory disregard will be applied and provided examples where it may be appropriate to exercise our discretion to disregard the value of a person's main or only home.
4. Appendix 6 – explanation of changes implemented following a court judgment
5. Appendix 7 – explanation of changes to increase the MIG for all single 18-24 UC LCW client groups from 4 October 2021
6. Billing for residential care – currently you are billed yearly and would like your feedback on how that worked for you and if you prefer receiving one bill would you prefer to be notified every four weeks.

It is important, therefore, that you tell us what you think. The consultation period will run for a period of five weeks from 26th January 2022 to 4th March 2022. We will collect all the feedback we receive from you and write a summary of what the feedback has said as well as the response from the Council to that feedback.

If you feel that you need help to do this, then Enfield Disability Action (EDA) will be happy to assist. They can be contacted by phone 020 8373 6228 or by email eda@e-d-a.org.uk

If you are responding to this letter by email, please send your response to financialcharges2022.consultation@enfield.gov.uk or complete the section at the end of this letter and return in the prepaid envelope.

Yours faithfully

Adult Social Care Policy Team



**Adult Social Care Financial Charges Consultation 2022-23
Strategy & Resources, 5th Floor Civic Centre**

You can view the draft policy online www.enfield.gov.uk/AdultSocialCareConsultations

or view a printed copy in your local library

This Consultation Ends 4th March 2022

Please provide comments by emailing: financialcharges2022.consultation@enfield.gov.uk

or by completing this section and returning the page in the pre-paid return envelope provided.

Name (optional):

Date:

Comments:
