

## **Provider Briefing:**

We want to remind you that the Adult Social Care consultation on Community Care Charging is still in progress and ends on 5/05/25.

As previously advised, this will not impact on Providers directly; however, it will impact on those people you provide non-residential services to. We want you to be aware of this consultation in case any people you are supporting raise it directly with you or your staff. They may be anxious and/or concerned. We would like to try to minimise their anxiety in as far as we can, so we are asking that you and your staff provide a consistent message if asked any questions. This message is set out below under the Community Care Charging Consultation heading.

We are also asking that you and your staff sign post to our webpage where there is more information.

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/adult-social-care/paying-for-support/community-care-charging-consultation/>

We sent a letter to all people in receipt of non-residential services on 10<sup>th</sup> February. This invited them to participate in the consultation and will set out for them what the financial impact of the proposed change is. The consultation is for 12 weeks and will end on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

We have held a number consultation engagement sessions and in the weeks left we are willing to

## **Community Care Charging Consultation**

Bradford Council is commencing a consultation on proposed changes to the discretionary elements of the Adult Social Care Non-Residential Contribution Policy. Community Care Services help people who are disabled, have long term health problems or are elderly with adult social care eligible needs to live more independently in their homes and the community). They will have been assessed by a social worker and their eligible needs can be met in a variety of personalised ways e.g. by a service managed by the council or purchased by a direct payment received from the council.

Community Care Services include:

- Day care (unless provided as part of a package of residential care)
- Personal care
- Outreach support
- Supported Living services
- Time Out
- Extra Care Housing
- Direct Payments

Contributions towards the cost of Community Care Services are not charged if a person is:

- suffering from Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease
- in receipt of 100% Continuing Healthcare Funding
- receiving aftercare under Section 117 of the Mental Health Act

They should be aware if they are in one of these 3 categories.

When people start to receive this service, a financial assessment is carried out to find out what their income and expenditure is.

This financial assessment helps us work out the maximum amount they would need to contribute towards the cost of the care they receive.

When we work out how much people need to pay towards their community care services (like homecare and day services), through a financial assessment we use guidance provided by the Government.

The Government has set a national 'Minimum Income Guarantee' (MIG), which is an amount of money set by the Government that any individual must be left with to live on after their care charge is taken into account.

The Council's current policy allows older people and younger disabled people who use adult social care services to keep 25% above the basic levels of income support, which we call a discretionary buffer.

Bradford Council is proposing to remove this discretionary buffer, and we want to consult with those receiving community care services about this via a public consultation. A public consultation will help the Council to fully understand the impact that this proposed change may have on those receiving services.

If the proposed change goes ahead, their contribution towards the cost of their care would be in line with the national Minimum Income Guarantee and would still be based on their individual circumstances following a personalised financial assessment.

We are asking people about the proposed change through a public consultation. A public consultation will help the Council to fully understand the impact that this proposed change may have on them.

No-one's charge will change until our councillors make a decision. The earliest any change would be made is 1 August 2025, and we would write to them again if any change is going to happen.

We would also need to complete a new financial assessment for them, including taking into account any Disability Related Expenditure, and to ensure they are receiving all the welfare benefits from the Government that they or their household are entitled to. We can help them to claim these.

These new assessments will ensure any contribution they need to make towards the cost of their care is based on their most up to date finances.

## **What will happen next?**

We have included in the letter some questions which they can return via Freepost for them to provide us with their thoughts on this proposal. They have 12 weeks, until 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025, to return this. Of course they do not have to participate in the consultation if they do not want to.

If they would prefer to speak to someone, attend a group discussion or respond by email, the attached information provides details of how to do that. We would like you to sign post them to these and our webpage.

We have also provided them with a list of community organisations who can take them through the letter and help them make contact via the number or the email. Their contact details are on the leaflet attached to the letter and included in this brief

If they need this letter in a different format e.g. British Sign Language, easy read, large print, a different language, or audio; or if they have any additional queries about this letter, we can be contacted on

01274 436464 or by email at [CPCharging.Consultation@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:CPCharging.Consultation@bradford.gov.uk)

## **Community Organisations:**

Set out below is a list of community organisations who can take them through the letter they have received and help them make contact via the number or the email.

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Public email</b>
Citizens Advice	Bradford West	<a href="tel:08082787828">0808 278 7828</a>
Citizens Advice	Keighley and Airdale	<a href="tel:08082787828">0808 278 7828</a>
St Vincent de Paul	Bradford South	<a href="mailto:wyinfo@svp.org.uk">wyinfo@svp.org.uk</a>
Karmand Centre	Bradford East	<a href="mailto:info@karmand.org.uk">info@karmand.org.uk</a>
Equality Together	District wide (complex needs)	<a href="mailto:enquiry@equalitytogether.org.uk">enquiry@equalitytogether.org.uk</a>

They can contact us on 01274 436464 or

by email at [CPChargingConsultation@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:CPChargingConsultation@bradford.gov.uk)  
or via the website <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/adult-social-care/paying-for-support/community-care-charging-consultation/>  
to book one of the engagement sessions on the following page.