

Medium Term Financial Plan

Initial Equality Impact Assessment of Budget Proposal 2024/25



1. The Proposal

Budget Theme: Income - linked to adult social care services
Budget reference: INC02
Budget proposal 2024/25 (£): £860,000

The following savings are included within this Theme:

Directorate Reference	Service Area	Budget Proposal	2024/25 Budget reduction
ASS02	Care in the Community	Increase in income from increase to benefit rates which will increase maximum charges.	£850,000
ASS03	Care in the Community	Extra Care - leasehold charge to self-funders	£10,000
Total			£860,000

Theme Narrative:

Annual increase in fees and charges for adult social care related services specifically linked to the national increase in benefit rates.

Summary of changes:

ASS02 – Care in the Community

Increase in income from increase to benefit rates which will increase maximum charges.

Following government announcements to changes in pensions, benefits and minimum income guarantees, the Council will review all financial assessments and client contributions and adjust the amounts that clients will need to contribute towards their care. This will be based on their income and the amount that the government identifies that clients can retain before making any contribution. The financial assessment process involves a means test that ensures that contributions are affordable. Income from charges will grow in line with pension increases at c9%

ASS03 – Care in the community

Extracare – Leasehold charge to external funders

The leasehold charge that covers the core care costs is met by tenants in the newest Extra Care scheme run by the council. It is proposed to bring the other 4 schemes in line with this model and charge each tenant an equal share of the core costs. The proposal will phase the implementation limiting the charge to new tenants.

Is any of the proposals within this theme a continuation of a previous medium-term financial plan saving?

Yes No

If yes, please insert reference number and year of assessment?

Budget Proposal	Year of assessment	Budget Reference
Increased client contributions to reflect increases in benefits and pensions	2023/24	ASS13

If yes, please describe what steps you have taken to review the equality impacts from previous years?

Client contributions continue to be subject to a mean-test based financial assessment which means that the customers' ability to pay social care fees will be looked at and assessed on an individual case by case basis.

2. Customer equality impact summary

Will the proposal have a disproportionate impact on any of these groups?

Budget Proposal	Equality Impacts – Please consider any potential equalities impacts based on the protected groups below. Please answer High (H), Medium (M), Low (L) or None (N)										Positive (+) or Negative (-)
	Disabled People, including those who are neurodiverse	Race	Men or Women, including those who are pregnant	Sexual Orientation	People on a low income	Age	Religion or belief or none	Marriage or civil partnership	Gender reassignment	Other, for example parents, carers or the Armed Forces. *	
ASS02	L	N	N	N	L	L	N	N	N		-
ASS03	L	N	N	N	L	L	N	N	N		-

Explanation of staff impact

N/A

6. Review and Sign Off

Service Manager Review

Insert any service manager comments here:

Is a further detailed equality impact assessment needed?

Yes

No

If 'yes', when will the further assessment be completed?

Service Manager:

Gerald Hunt

Date:

18 December 2023