

Proposed changes

to charges for day
care, re-enablement
care, and extra care
sheltered care



www.brent.gov.uk

This leaflet tells you about proposals to change some charges for social care and invites comments on what is proposed.

What is being proposed?

Three changes are proposed to the council's charges for care services. They are:

- day care charges – introduce a charge of £3.75 per day for attending day care;
- re-enablement care charges – charge for re-enablement care services at the same rate as homecare (currently £16.65 per hour);
- extra care sheltered care charges – charge £116.55 per week for the care service (currently £39.90 per week).

Background

Currently there is no charge for attending a day centre. The council proposed introducing a charge from April 2007. But it was not possible to implement the planned charges due to a computer problem. This has been fixed and the council is now planning to introduce a charge for day care from April 2009. Many councils already charge for day care.

Re-enablement care aims to assist people to leave hospital with a support package that helps them live independently. There is currently a small re-enablement care service that the council wishes to expand. Re-enablement care is aimed at people's short-term needs and if someone needs longer term care it will be provided through the homecare service.

Extra care sheltered social care is provided to clients in extra care sheltered flats. This is where a care worker is on call 24 hours a day. The charge for extra care sheltered care has not been increased for three years. It is now proposed to bring this into line with the charge for homecare based on seven hours of homecare per week ($£16.65 \times 7 \text{ days} = £116.65 \text{ per week}$).

Keeping charges down

In general most social care clients now receive a free or subsidised service:

- 65% of clients pay nothing for their service;
- 30% of clients are subsidised because of their low incomes and pay for part of the services they receive;
- 5% of clients pay the full cost of the service.

If these proposals are agreed then:

- users of day care services would be subsidised regardless of their income. Day care costs Brent Council from £38 to £170 per day to provide;
- re-enablement care service users would not be subsidised unless they were on an income that is low enough;
- extra care sheltered clients would not be subsidised unless they were on an income that is low enough. It is not proposed to change any aspect of the tenancy – this is between the tenant and the housing association.

Will I be affected?

Yes, if you:

- attend a council run day centre or you attend an independent day centre for which the council pays, or;
- receive re-enablement care, or;
- are living in extra care sheltered housing.

You would not be affected if:

- you receive a direct payment for day activities – existing charges will not change;
- attend employment training;
- you live in sheltered housing – there is already a charge if you receive homecare and it is not proposed to change that charge.

How will it affect me?

The way charges are assessed is not proposed to change. The only change proposed is the new charges detailed above and the higher charge for social care in extra

care sheltered housing. Currently all clients are assessed as either:

- a full cost client, or;
- an assessed client with a charge, or;
- an assessment client with a no charge.

If you are a “full cost client”:

- and live in extra care sheltered housing it is proposed that the charge will increase from £49 per week to £116.55 per week;
- and attend a council day centre, or an independent day centre funded by the council, it is proposed that there will be a new charge of £3.75 per day;
- if you receive re-enablement care it is proposed that you will be charged £16.65 for each hour of re-enablement care you receive.

If you are an “assessed client with a charge”:

The proposals for increases in charges are as set out in the “full cost client” section above. However, the maximum charge will be capped so that no one will have to pay if their income is less than:

- Pension Credit plus 25%, or;
- Income Support plus 25%.

Where your income is above this there will be a partial or full charge. If the charge would otherwise reduce your income below either of the levels above, then the charge will be capped so that you get the minimum income guaranteed above.

For example, if your income is above the minimum income guarantee by £10 per week and you attend day care for three days per week then the charge would be $3 \times £3.75 = £11.25$. However, this would take your income below the minimum income guarantee and therefore the charge is capped at £10 per week.

If you are an “assessed client with a nil charge”

If your income is below the minimum guarantee level you will currently not be charged for your services. It is not proposed to change that. If your total weekly income is less than the amounts below, you will qualify for a free service.

Client	Estimated Minimum Income Guarantee from April 2009
Single person aged 60 or over	£162.62 per week
Single person aged 18 to 24	£62.93 per week
Single person aged 25 to 60	£79.41 per week

No client will pay a charge for their social care service if their income is below the minimum income guarantee. In addition, certain benefits provided by government to deal with the increased costs of having a disability are not included when working out your minimum income guarantee.

Proposed changes

The majority of people would continue to receive a free service; although we will assess everyone's income.

It is proposed to change the following charges:

- day care – introduce a new charge of £3.75 per day or part of a day if the session is shorter than a full day. If lunch is offered then there will be an additional charge based on the council's standard charge for a meal (this is the current charging policy);
- extra care sheltered housing clients receiving social care – a charge of £116.55 per week. The charge is based on seven hours of care per week. Clients will receive variable amounts of care each week and will have access to over night care workers and to wardens;
- re-enablement care – introduce a new charge of £16.65 per hour for re-enablement care – the same hourly rate as homecare.

Direct Payment clients

Currently, your charge is assessed using the same hourly contribution rates as if the homecare was supplied direct to you. However the Direct Payment charge is based on a lower hourly rate than homecare. The same rules about savings and income apply. It is not proposed to change these arrangements.

How will I know what I am expected to contribute?

We will financially assess all clients. We will then tell you what your new charge will be and how we have calculated it.

We will arrange for you to be provided with help to complete any new forms and also carry out a benefit check to make sure you receive the benefits you are entitled to. This will include any help completing applications for Disability Benefits and Pension Credit.

Brent Council charges those clients that have enough income to live on and some disposable income above that. When calculating your income the council takes into account income from all eligible sources and savings. The value of your property is not counted while you live in it as your home. Charges ensure that no client has to live on less than the minimum income guarantee. This is 25 per cent higher than Pension Credit or Income Support levels.

When calculating whether people can afford the charges, all the charges will be added together and compared to the persons' total weekly income. Meals charges are not included in this assessment. There is a charge for meals based on the number of meals delivered.

We only charge for the services provided and ask clients to contact us if they are unable to attend day care or receive homecare so that a rebate for that time can be applied to their account.

Full details of how the charge is calculated are sent with the initial assessment and are provided whenever the charge changes.

Mentally ill clients who receive care under Section 117 of the Mental Health Act will be exempt from charges as they are now.

What if I can't afford the new charge?

The charge is based on your ability to pay: so this should not arise. It may be that you have additional disability expenses that we are not aware of that will need to

be included in a new assessment – we will need evidence of this before allowing for them. We ask about your circumstances and check that you are claiming all the benefits you are entitled to.

What if I don't think my new charge is good value for money?

Brent Council only provides services to people who have been assessed as having a substantial or critical need for care. The assessment is made by a qualified and experienced care manager. We ask you to think carefully before giving up those services. Please contact your care manager to discuss the options. We ask you to do this because we don't want you to be put at risk because of money worries. You might want to consider organising your home care privately and not through Brent Council. The council may be able to help you with this: please talk to your care manager.

I have a direct payment for my day activities – will this be affected?

No. The Direct Payment scheme already assesses clients for a charge for day activities paid for through a Direct Payment. It is not planned to change this charge.

I receive support in seeking training and employment; will I have to pay the new day care charge?

No. The new charge is only for clients who attend specialised day centres run by Brent Council or another agency. It will not apply to:

- people getting support to attend training;
- people offered help to find work;
- people offered help to take part in leisure activities outside day centres.

Will charges go up in April 2009?

It is Brent Council's policy to review each charge annually. Brent Council's Executive will consider any proposals to increase charges at their meeting on **16 February 2009**.

Consultation details

This consultation follows the good practice guidance set out in Brent's Community Consultation and Engagement Strategy. Public consultation is open from **15 December 2008** until **19 January 2009**.

You can give us your views by post, fax, and email. For details please see the attached consultation information for service users. Brent Council will report back the views received to the council's Executive meeting on **16 February 2009**. Any changes that the Executive decides to make to charges will not take effect before **1 April 2009**.

How will I know what is decided?

If changes to charges are agreed then we will write to let service users know about when the changes will start. We will also put the information on the council's website: www.brent.gov.uk

General notes on the consultation

Who can give their views on these proposals?

Everyone is free to comment on the proposals including current service users and their carers; potential service users and their carers; current service providers including private, small, medium and large companies and organisations; local community, voluntary and faith groups; current and / or potential council tax payers; local employers; council partners like Brent PCT and advocacy services.

It is important to Brent Council to hear what you think about these proposals. Please complete the questionnaire opposite as a quick way to give your views.

Brent Council consultation on proposed changes to day care, extra care sheltered and re-enablement care charges

We want to hear your views on the proposed changes to day care, extra care sheltered and re-enablement care service charges. Please complete the following questionnaire. Your views are important to us. All of the information you provide will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

1 Please tick the boxes that apply to you:

1a I currently use Brent Council's day care, extra care sheltered, or re-enablement care services Yes No

1b I am responding on behalf of a service user Yes No

1c I am responding on behalf of a group of service users Yes No

1d I am responding on behalf of an organisation Yes No

If yes, please specify:

1e I am responding in another capacity Yes No

If yes, please specify:

2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed changes to day care, extra care sheltered or re-enablement care charges?

Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree

3 To what extent do you feel you (or the person on whose behalf you are responding) will be affected by the proposed changes?

A great deal A fair amount Not very much Not at all Don't know

4 Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

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Please return this questionnaire to us by 18 January 2009 using the free post envelope provided (you don't need to put a stamp on it).

Thank you for taking the time to give us your views.

About you

By answering the following questions, you will help us to ensure that we deliver a fair service to all our community. You do not have to give us this information, but we hope you will. All information will be treated in confidence and will only be used to monitor and improve Brent Council services. Please tick all the relevant boxes:

1 Gender

Male Female

2 My age group is

16–24 25–34 35–44 45–54 55–64 65–74 75+

3 Disability

Do you consider yourself to have a long standing illness or disability? Yes No

If yes, does your disability or impairment impact on your daily life? Yes No

4 Ethnicity

White: British Irish
White other (e.g. Polish) Please specify:

Black or Black British: Caribbean Black British
African Black other Please specify:

Asian or Asian British: Indian Pakistani Asian British
Bangladeshi Asian other Please specify:

Mixed: White & Black Caribbean White & Asian
White & Black African Mixed other Please specify:

Chinese: Chinese Chinese British
Chinese other Please specify:

Other (e.g. Arab): Please specify:

Your name:

e-mail address:

Mobile:

Telephone:

Address:

How to return the questionnaire

By Post

A free return business reply envelope is enclosed – fill in and return the questionnaire and send it to:

Penne Sawford
Community Services Consultation 2009/10
4th floor Mahatma Gandhi House
34 Wembley Hill Road
Wembley
Middlesex HA9 8AD

Fax: 020 8937 4026

Email: enquiries.cft@brent.gov.uk

Consultation Co-ordinator:

Penne Sawford: penne.sawford@brent.gov.uk

Complaints about the consultation process:

Ken Scott: ken.scott@brent.gov.uk

Please note that the complaints service cannot investigate the proposals themselves.

Thank you for taking the time to give us your views. Your comments will be treated confidentially.

List of helpful publications:

1. How Direct Payments Can Benefit You
2. Fairer charging policy for non-residential community care

Available from Penne Sawford at one of the addresses above.

Information in other languages

This booklet provides information about proposed changes to charges for homecare and daycare. If you would like a copy in another language please tick the appropriate box and complete your name and address below.



PLEASE
TICK

Ky udhëzues përmban informacione për ndryshimet e proposuara të kujdesit shtëpiak dhe atij ditor. Nëse e doni një kopje në gjuhën tuaj ju lutemi shënoni kutinë e duhur dhe plotësoni emrin dhe adresën tuaj më poshtë.



ALBANIAN

يقدم هذا الكتيب معلومات عن التغييرات المقترحة على رسوم العناية المنزلية والعناية النهارية. وإذا ترغب في الحصول على هذه الكتيب مترجم إلى لغة أخرى فيرجى تأشير المربع الملائم وتعبئة اسمك وعنوانك أدناه.



ARABIC

આ પુસ્તિકા હોમ કેર (ઘરમાં પૂરૂ પાડવામાં આવતી સંભાળ) અને ડે કેર (દિવસના સમયની સંભાળ)ના ચાર્જ્સમાં પ્રાસ્તાવિક ફેરફારો વિશે માહિતી આપે છે. જો તમને બીજી કોઈ ભાષામાં તેની નકલ જોઈતી હોય તો કૃપા કરીને યોગ્ય ખાનામાં ટિક કરો અને તમારું નામ અને સરનામું નીચે લખી જણાવો.



GUJARATI

इस पुस्तिका में होम-केयर और डे-केयर चार्ज्ज में प्रस्तावित परिवर्तन से संबंधित जानकारी दी गई है। यह पुस्तिका किसी अन्य भाषा में प्राप्त करने के लिये कृपया उचित खाने में टिक का निशान लगा कर नीचे अपना नाम पता लिखें।



HINDI

ਇਸ ਕਿਤਾਬਚੇ ਵਿਚ ਘਰ ਵਿਚ ਹੋਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਦੇਖਭਾਲ ਅਤੇ ਦਿਨ ਵੇਲੇ ਹੋਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਦੇਖਭਾਲ 'ਤੇ ਆਉਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਖਰਚ ਵਿਚ ਤਬਦੀਲੀਆਂ ਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਸੁਝਾਓ ਬਾਰੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਵਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਢੁੱਕਵੇਂ ਖਾਨੇ ਵਿਚ ਸਹੀ ਦਾ ਨਿਸ਼ਾਨ ਲਾ ਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਆਪਣਾ ਨਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਪਤਾ ਲਿਖ ਦਿਓ।



PUNJABI

Buuggan yari wuxu bixinayaa tafaasiil ku saabsan isbeddelka la soo jeediyey ee qiimaha guri ku xannaanaynta iyo xannaanaynta maalintii. Haddii aad rabto nuqul ku qoran af kale fadlan sax sanduuqa munaasibka ah. Oo magacaaga iyo cinwaakaaga ku soo qor hoos.



SOMALI

ஹோம் கெயருக்கும் டே கெயருக்குமான அறவீடுகள் தொடர்பாக முன்வைக்கப்படும் மாற்றங்கள் பற்றிய தகவலை இந்த நூற்பத்திரம் தருகின்றது. இன்னொரு மொழியில் ஒரு பிரதியை நீங்கள் விரும்பினால், தயவுசெய்து பொருத்தமான பெட்டியில் அடையாளமிட்டு, கீழே உள்ள பெயரையும் முகவரியையும் நிரப்பவும்.



TAMIL

اس کتا بچے میں 'ہوم کیئر' اور 'ڈے کیئر' چارجز میں مجوزہ تبدیلی سے متعلق معلومات دی گئی ہیں۔ یہ کتا بچہ اگر آپ کو کسی دیگر زبان میں درکار ہو تو برائے مہربانی متعلقہ خانے میں تک کا نشان لگا کر مجھے اپنا نام پتہ درج کریں۔



URDU

I would like this booklet in large print



LARGE
PRINT

If you would like a copy on audio tape, please call the council's One Stop Service on 020 8937 1200.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

Please detach and return to: One Stop Service, Brent Town Hall, Forty Lane Wembley, Middlesex HA9 9HD.