



Have your say on new planned changes to the Care and support charging policy.

15th December 2021 to 10th February 2022.

Herefordshire Council is planning changes to Charges for Care and Support



Unlike the NHS, social care isn't usually free. We carry out a means-test called a financial assessment looking at each person's circumstances to work out how much they pay for their care.

There are different rules for charging for care depending on whether a person is receiving care

- in a care home
- in their own home
- or other place

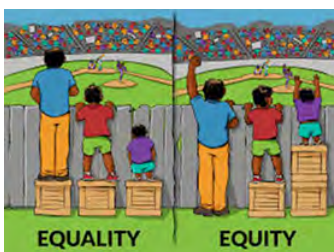


Central government has rules on how councils must charge for the care, and make plans explaining how they charge



We are doing this to make sure we are always fair, and that everyone pays the right amount for the care services they receive.

We know that each person's circumstances are different.



1st Idea



To increase the minimum income guarantee amount (MIG). This is the amount of your income, the government says you need, to meet your living costs.

The new plan will reduce how much people will pay towards care and support charges. We think that whatever your age, if you pay towards your care, you will be better off. You will keep more of your money.

2nd Idea



The minimum income guarantee amount (MIG) will be the same for all people of working age 18 and over. At the moment if you are under 25, you are left with less money for living costs after paying for care. This will be better

3rd Idea



This is about how we treat the money you receive in disability benefits if you get the higher rate of Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance. The rules we use now take no notice of some of your money from these disability benefits if you do not have night time care provided by us.

Instead of ignoring some of the money you get because you need care at night we plan to make an allowance for any disability related expenses towards the money you pay for private night time care. This could affect you if you only get help with care from the council during the day and don't pay for night time care. You could pay more.

4th Idea



Is about charges for short stays in a care home (sometimes called respite care when your Carer has a break or a holiday). In this new idea we will use the same rules as paying for care and support in your own home, or in the community for up to 8 weeks a year. This will cost you less.

Respite can give your carer a break or to help you to stay independent for longer. It will cost you less under this proposal.



5th Idea

People with savings or investments worth over £23,500 who ask the council to arrange home care services for them will pay the full cost the council pays.

The council will also charge an admin fee for setting this up.

People who self-fund their care and live in rural areas may have to pay more for care at home.

What effect will these proposals have on charges for care?

Some people will pay more, but many people will not.



Talk to us about the proposals. We welcome your views

We want to help you: The helpline is: 01432 260009.

You will hear a message asking you for your name, address, postcode, contact details and availability for a telephone discussion. We hope to call you back within three working days.

OR: you can email chargingforcare@herefordshire.gov.uk with your questions or to ask for a paper copy of our survey.

