

Decision Ref. No. (Please enter) B인63 / 나구

DECISION RECORD ¹

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx)

Subject: To consult on charging for community based Adult Social Care Services (Please use the same title as provided in the Forward Plan)	
Staff Contact: Helen Maneuf	Executive Member: Colette Wyatt-Lowe
Tel: 01438 845502	Portfolio: Adult Care and Health

1. Decision

1.1 To undertake a formal consultation on proposals to change how the council charges for non-residential (community based) adult social care services.

2. Reasons for the decision

- 2.1 The council last reviewed its policy for charging for non-residential (community based) adult social care services in 2010.
- 2.2 Since then the national charging framework has been updated by The Care Act 2014, The Care and Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014 and The Care and Support Statutory Guidance. In addition a number of anomalies have been identified in respect of how charging is applied; it is therefore timely to revisit the council's arrangements. Further, there has sustained pressure on funding for adult social care.
- 2.3 As the council wishes to continue to provide a wide range of services to as many people as possible and to collect a fair contribution towards them a review of the council's current charging policy has therefore been conducted and a number of possible amendments to the policy have been identified. This paper sets out the plans that the Director of ACS has made to hold a period of public, service user and stakeholder consultation in order to seek views on the proposed changes.
- 2.4 Following any consultation that takes place it is proposed that a paper will then be brought to Panel and then to Cabinet setting out the results of the consultation. Cabinet will then be able to decide whether to implement any or all of the proposals with a suggested implementation date of April 2018.

3. Alternative options considered and rejected ²

3.1 Whilst it may be possible to increase charges without a consultation exercise this was rejected because it is helpful to understand from feedback what the possible impact of the changes may be and to use these to help make final proposals for decision making purposes.

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4. Consultation

(a) Comments of Executive Member 3 4

The proposed policy protected the wider Interests of service users and carers against the backdrop of the significant financial challenge for adult social care, which is increasingly recognised as a national issue.

(b) Comments of other consultees ⁵

The matter was discussed at Adult Care and Health Cabinet Panel on 8 September.

5. Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.

- 6. Copies of agreed document to:
 - All consultees
 - Chairman, and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
 - hard & electronic copy (for public inspection both at County Hall and on Hertsdirect) Democratic Services Manager Room 213 County Hall.

¹ for guidance see Chief Legal Officer's note "Taking Decisions"

² details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time the decision was made

record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. If an Executive Member declares a conflict of interest DO NOT PROCEED without seeking advice from the Chief Legal Officer
 If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall

⁴ If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of the Council will need to be consulted

⁵ If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by e mail) and proceed. It is essential that <u>all</u> officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.