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Charging for Social Care (Non-Residential Care)

A Guide to Financial Assessment and Assessed Charge

Anyone who chooses to have an assessment which identified their needs can only be met through a care and support plan will be eligible to receive social care services.

Regardless of how that support is delivered, either directly by the Local Authority or via Direct Payments a financial assessment will need to be completed to determine if a person may be asked to make a financial contribution towards the cost their care and support.

The financial assessment is 'means tested', so each Local Authority has a Finance Team which carries out the assessment and will look at the persons income,

savings, property and any capital to calculate if or how much a person may be required to contribute towards the cost of their care and support. Certain types of income, such as money from certain disability benefits, may not be counted in the Financial Assessment.

The Finance Team are available to provide advice on how to complete the form, or you can discuss this with your Social Care Professional or ask a friend or family member to support, you. Once you have returned the form to the Finance Team, they will calculate your "Assessed Charge" or "Contribution" and because the calculation is 'means tested', you may or may not have to pay a financial contribution however, either way, they will write to you to confirm the outcome.



How much will I have to contribute to my Direct Payment?

The minimum contribution that you may have to pay towards the cost your care and support is zero. However, this can incrementally increase (depending on your income and savings) to a maximum contribution of £100 per week (for 2023-2024 financial year). The Contribution/Assessed Charge will need to be paid from the start date of your Direct Payment or the date you start to receive your care and support package arranged by the Local Authority.



If you disagree with the cost of the Assessed Charge, you can request a review. Just contact your Local Authority Finance Team and they will double check the income/savings figures used in their calculation.



The financial contribution/assessed charge is reviewed annually and if there are any changes you will be contacted by the Finance Team. If you refuse a financial assessment, you will be expected to pay the maximum weekly charge.

Your assessed charge is usually paid for 52 weeks of the year. This is because it is assumed that you require your care, and support needs to be met every week. However, in some instances where you only require your care and support needs to be met periodically, you will be advised of how and when to make payments.

If you have chosen to receive a Direct Payment, each Local Authority has an experienced Direct Payments Support Team to support with queries or information. They will provide as much help and reassurance as you need. For further information please contact your local Direct Payments Support Service.

Useful Contacts

Each Local Authority has an experienced Direct Payments Team if you have any queries, or you require information. They will provide you with as much help and reassurance as needed. There is also additional support provided from the Insurance Liability companies, payroll companies and other external sources.

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Direct Payments Team Office
directpayments@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

Caerphilly County Borough Council Direct Payments Team Office
directpayadvisors@caerphilly.gov.uk

Monmouthshire County Borough Council Direct Payments Team
mccdirectpaymentteam@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Newport City Council Direct Payments Support Team
direct.payments@newport.gov.uk

Torfaen County Borough Council Independent Living (Direct Payments) Team
independentlivingteam@torfaen.gov.uk

