



## **Guide to Charges for Community Based Services** **(effective from April 2020)**

Warrington Borough Council's policy is that adults who use social care services are charged according to their disposable income level. Disposable income is the amount of money that remains after specific housing costs, expenditure relating to a person's disability and a nationally set minimum income level are deducted.

We offer all people who use services a financial assessment and benefits assessment to determine how much they will have to pay for their care. This assessment may result in care charges being reduced and the benefits assessment may help to increase income.

### **How do you work out how much I have to pay?**

*There is a care cost calculator available on <https://carecalculator.warrington.gov.uk>*

- You will be offered a financial assessment to determine how much you will have to pay. We will include all forms of state and private income, capital and investments. *This list is not exhaustive.*

*Alternatively, you can choose to use the council's contracts and you will be charged the following fees:*

<b>Services at home</b>	<b>Services outside of your home</b>
£13.41 per 46 minutes to 1 hour of home care	£40.00 per day at a day centre
£10.34 per 31 minutes to 45 minutes of home care	£2.67 main meal at a day centre
£7.17 per 16 minutes to 30 minutes of home care	£2.05 light meal at a day centre
£5.66 per 1 minute to 15 minutes of home care	£4.24 per trip for transport
<b>Administration Charges (for full cost clients only)</b>	
Setup fee (one off charge) £50.00	£4.00 weekly admin charge

- If you have savings between £14,250 and £23,250 you will be assessed as having £1 of disposable income for every £250 of savings.
- If you decline a financial assessment you will be considered to have more than £23,250 and you will be asked to pay the full cost of your care.
- If you have savings over £23,250 you will pay the full cost of your care package. *Setup and administration fees are applicable.*

### **Important Note:**

You might find that a provider could charge you less or more than the council charges its service users who choose to use the council's contracts.

If you are assessed as having to pay the full cost of your care, or your actual charges are less than your maximum assessed charge, then you should be aware that it may cost you less to arrange your care directly with a social care service provider. This may enable you to negotiate services and fees with more choice and control in order to meet your needs.



### **Does everyone have to pay for their social care services?**

A small number of people who receive services funded by Supporting People or NHS Continuing Healthcare may not have to pay for their care. Your allocated worker will advise you if this applies to you.

If you are discharged from hospital, you may qualify for intermediate care which is free for a period of **up to** six weeks. You will be assessed by your allocated worker and advised if this applies to you. If you continue to need social care following your period of intermediate care you will be charged at the community rates overleaf.

### **What happens if I need to cancel my care?**

If you need to cancel your care, e.g. for holidays, visiting family, family providing temporary care, etc, please contact your provider as soon as possible. You are required to give at least two weeks notice to the provider and you will be charged for this notice period.

You will be charged for up to two weeks if you are admitted to hospital. This is to keep your care package available for when you return home.

If we have arranged transport for you and you want to cancel it, we require 24 hours

notice otherwise you will be charged. Consideration will be given to unavoidable cancellations when 24 hours notice is not given (e.g. due to illness or if a carer is late helping you to get ready).

### **How often will you send me an invoice?**

You will be sent invoices every four weeks in arrears (this means we will charge you after you have received the service).

### **If services end:**

If services end for any reason, as we bill approximately 8 weeks in arrears, please be aware you will receive ongoing invoices to cover up to the last date you received services.

### **Who can I contact if I have any questions?**

If you have any queries, or would like more information on the council's charges for social care services, please contact the Income and Assessment Team on 01925 444017.

The council's non-residential social care charges policy is also available on our website, visit [www.warrington.gov.uk](http://www.warrington.gov.uk). – scroll down to Adult Social Care and click on the link to Eligibility and Paying for Care.

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