



Guide to Charges for Temporary Respite, Permanent Residential and Nursing Accommodation Social Care Charge (effective from April 2020)

If you need 24-hour temporary respite or permanent residential or nursing care, please talk it through with an allocated worker first. We may be able to help you make a decision. The council's charging procedures follow the Department of Health's Care and Statutory Support 2014 Guidelines (Care Act 2014). *Details of the Council's procedures are also available on our website. Visit www.warrington.gov.uk.*

Do I need to arrange my own respite care?

If you have above £23,250 savings, you can choose to arrange your care privately or speak to your allocated worker.

Do I need to arrange my own residential care or can I choose to use the council's contract with care homes?

If you have savings lower than £23,250 and have no other assets, you will be able to use the council's contract. If you have savings over £23,250 (or other cashable assets such as shares) you will need to arrange your own accommodation with a care home and pay the home directly for your care until your savings fall below £23,250.

Please note: if you choose a care home that does not have a contract with the council, or you choose a room that is more expensive than the council would normally pay; should your savings fall below £23,250 and you cannot afford to top up the care home's fees, you will have to move to a council contract accommodation.

The council's residential and nursing contract fees are:

Care Home Residential or Nursing	£ per week	Respite £ week
Residential	509.00	544.00
Residential Dementia	579.00	614.00
Nursing	581.00*	616.00*
Nursing Dementia	615.00*	650.00*
Woodleigh Residential Home	700.00	700.00
<i>* Exclusive of NHS funded nursing care</i>		
The above fees will be subject to inflationary increases and providers' fees increases from time to time; service users will be advised of any increases when they occur		

What residential services are chargeable?

Any short-term care, respite care, transitional bed, college residential, or permanent residential or nursing services are chargeable.

For people in receipt of Intermediate Care services:

Whilst you are in receipt of rehabilitation and assessment this service is free for a period **up to** 6 weeks, however, when your rehabilitation is complete you will be assessed for any ongoing needs. Where the service you need is not immediately available - you will be charged according to your assessed need (ie package of care or home of choice placement). If your ongoing service is available, and the delay is not attributable to Intermediate Care - you will be charged the cost of the bed as outlined above.

The process for calculating service user's contribution for ongoing services is identified overleaf.



Will I have to pay the charges if I go away on holiday or I am in hospital?

Yes. Everyone has to continue paying for their accommodation if they are away from their care home for any period of time.

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.*
- 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 and be asked to arrange and pay for your own care directly with your chosen care home provider.

Does everyone have to pay for their temporary respite and permanent residential and nursing social care services?

Everyone will pay something towards their respite or residential and nursing care based on the financial assessment. You will retain a weekly personal allowance of £24.90; the remainder of your weekly income will contribute to the cost of the care home fees. The NHS will decide if you qualify for their funding of nursing fees or Continuing Health Care; your allocated worker can advise if you qualify for this. You will need to pay the council's charges during any period of time the NHS is considering whether or not you might qualify for their funding. Any charges you have paid will be reimbursed to you if the NHS confirms it is funding your care.

Will my house be taken into consideration for charging?

Yes, after the first 12 weeks of your residential or nursing care, however, you may apply to use the council's deferred payments scheme if the council can place a charge on your property. You, and any joint owners of the property, will be

expected to agree to the council placing a charge on your property before you can use the deferred payments scheme. You are advised to seek independent legal and financial advice before agreeing to defer payments.

What is the deferred payments scheme?

The deferred payments scheme is only available if the care home resident has insufficient income to pay for residential care and has savings less than £23,250. In such cases, if the council can put a legal charge on the care home resident's property, the council will pay a portion of the residential care fees (effectively a loan). *This will be subject to administrative and interest costs.* The resident is assessed to see whether they are able to pay a weekly charge to the authority. Their ability to pay is based on their income less the personal expenses allowance. Repayment of money borrowed is deferred until the property is sold or the person dies. If a client does not have capacity, in order to qualify for the scheme, they must have legal representation by way of EPA, LPA or deputyship through COP.

What if I am unable to arrange my own respite or residential accommodation and have nobody who can arrange and pay for it on my behalf?

In these circumstances, the council will make the necessary arrangements, and regardless of the amount of savings you have, will arrange your residential accommodation through the council's contract.

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 for more information?

If you have any queries, or would like more information on the council's charges for social care services, please contact the Financial Assessment Team on 01925 444017 or email: ssv_enq@warrington.gov.uk.
