

# Report

Report to:	<b>Social Work Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>7 September 2022</b>
Report by:	<b>Director, Health and Social Care</b>

Subject:	<b>Rates and Charges for Care Services for 2022/2023</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update Committee with the 2022/2023 Rates and Charges for Care Services

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the revised rates and associated arrangements to residential and nursing care rates, as detailed in section 4 of the report be noted;
- (2) that the revised charges to nursing and residential respite charges as detailed in section 5 of the report be noted;
- (3) that the revised rates and associated arrangements for care at home, supported living and day care, as detailed in section 6 of the report be noted; and
- (4) that the arrangements for non-residential charges, as detailed in section 7 of the report be noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. Each year, Social Work Resources require to confirm the rates and charges which will be adopted for residential, nursing, supported living, non-residential Care Services and Care at Home Services. The rates which will be charged to other local authorities for Care Services must also be set.

3.2. In recognition of the need to implement contractual uplifts in 2022/2023 without delay to providers, Social Work Resources Committee of 9 February 2022 agreed delegated authority for the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Resources and Director of Health and Social Care to approve the following rates:

- ◆ Care at Home, Supported Living, Daycare and Integrated Care Facilities
- ◆ Residential and Nursing Care through National Care Home Contract
- ◆ Residential services outwith National Care Home Contract

3.3. In March 2022, Scottish Government and COSLA approved a national uplift for contractual hourly rates paid to adult social care providers in accordance with the increase to real living wage.

#### **4. Residential and Nursing Care Rates**

- 4.1. Scotland Excel, Scottish Care, and the Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS) have undertaken a review of the 2022/2023 fee levels associated with providing nursing and residential care for older people in Scotland.
- 4.2. The National Care Home Rate for nursing care has been set at £832.10 (5.4% increase) per week and Residential care rates were set at £719.50 per week (5.6% increase). Both rates are effective from 11 April 2022. These rates will also be adopted for the in-house residential care homes to ensure equity for all residents within in-house and private sector care homes. This will also form the basis for the charge to other local authorities that have placed users within the in-house care homes.
- 4.3. Each resident's financial contribution towards their residential care costs is based on assessment of their ability to pay in line with the National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Scotland) Regulations 1992, as amended.
- 4.4. The Free Personal and Nursing Care Payment rates are revised annually by the Scottish Government. Rates increased to £212.85 per week for personal care and £95.80 per week for nursing care from 11 April 2022.
- 4.5. In accordance with the national uplift set by Scottish Government and COSLA, adult residential care rates outwith the National Care Home Contract will be uplifted by 3.44%.
- 4.6. It is proposed to continue to adopt the COSLA agreement to accept, for placements outwith South Lanarkshire, the rates set and agreed by the relevant host authority where applicable.

#### **5. Nursing and Residential Respite Charges**

- 5.1. The National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) Regulations 1992 state that for the first eight weeks of respite, authorities should charge "the amount it appears reasonable to the local authorities for the resident to pay".
- 5.2. In deciding what is "reasonable", authorities should consider the individual's outgoing expenses and commitments at home. The nursing and residential respite charge is, therefore, based on the standard minimum guaranteed income less personal allowance and increases in line with the Department for Work and Pensions increases in state benefits.
- 5.3. Nursing and residential respite charge for older people will be increased by £3.80 to £151.60 per week, effective from April 2022, in line with the Department for Work and Pensions' increase.
- 5.4. The increase to the nursing and residential respite charge will be met by the net increase in Department for Work and Pensions' benefits available to individuals. This practice is consistent with the approach adopted in previous years.
- 5.5. Nursing and residential respite charge for adults remains unchanged for 2022/2023 at £84.45 per week.

## **6. Care at Home, Supported Living and Day Care Rates**

- 6.1. Scottish Government and COSLA have recommended a national uplift of 4.16% for adult social care services in 2022/2023.
- 6.2. The Director of Health and Social Care agreed a baseline increase of £0.50 per hour plus the non-residential uplift of 4.16% for non-residential commissioned services in light of increasing operating costs as a result of inflation, fuel, energy and other rising costs and to support the Council's ability to attract and sustain Care at Home providers in South Lanarkshire. The rate paid by the Council for care at home, supported living and day care was set at £19.56 per hour (increase of £1.28, 6.7%) effective from 1 April 2022.
- 6.3. An uplift of £0.74 (6%) was agreed for sleepover rates to increase this to a standard rate of £13.11 per hour. Although higher than the 4.16% increase recommended by Scottish Government, this rate restores the link between the hourly sleepover rate and Living Wage, to ensure the H&SCP can demonstrate that Living Wage can be met within the commissioned rate.
- 6.4. The Care at Home framework rate is currently adopted for South Lanarkshire Council's in-house Home Care Service. This ensures equity for all service users receiving a Care at Home Service.
- 6.5. The Council will continue to adopt the COSLA agreement to accept, for services provided outwith South Lanarkshire, the rates set and agreed by the relevant host authority where applicable.

## **7. Non Residential Care Service Charges**

- 7.1. The charging policy for non-residential Care Services continues to be based on an assessment of the service user's ability to pay towards the cost of care.
- 7.2. In line with previous years, the charging policy in respect of non-residential Care Services will be amended to reflect the thresholds recommended by COSLA for 2022/2023, effective from April 2022. If the income of service users falls below this threshold, no contribution would be required.
- 7.3. In arriving at the contribution payable by users towards the cost of their Care Services, a calculation is completed to determine their assessable income to which a percentage taper is then applied. This then determines the maximum level of contribution that service users will make. The level of the percentage taper is set by the Council and will remain at 60% for 2022/2023.

## **8. Employee Implications**

- 8.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

## **9. Financial Implications**

- 9.1. The additional expenditure associated with the increase in rates across the various categories detailed in the report will be met from Integrated Joint Board funding allocations. Additional income generated as a result of the increase in charges for other local authorities will offset the increases in the cost of service delivery.

## **10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

10.1. There are no climate change or environmental implications as a result of this report.

## **11. Other Implications**

11.1. There is a risk that service users may refuse to receive the Care Services which they have been assessed as requiring as a result of an increase in the charge for those services. Effective risk management arrangements are an integral part of the delivery of Social Care Services and all clients will undergo a risk assessment. The Director has discretion to exercise his authority in terms of the Social Work Scotland Act 1968 to abate or waive charges on a case by case basis where a service user, due to their financial circumstances, has difficulty in meeting the approved cost of the service.

11.2. There are no issues in respect of sustainable development arising from this report.

11.3. There are no other issues arising from this report.

## **12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

12.1. There are no requirements to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

12.2. There was no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained within this report.

**Soumen Sengupta**

**Director, Health and Social Care**

26 July 2022

### **Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes**

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

### **Previous References**

Social Work Resources Committee 9 February 2022

### **List of Background Papers**

None

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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