

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	28 February 2011
Title:	Response to consultation and proposals for a new Contributions Policy for Adult Social Care services
Reference:	2291
Report From:	Director of Adult Services

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1. The decision:

- a) The separate recommendations for each of the proposals as set out in Appendix 1 be approved.
- b) The outline single policy framework 'Contributions Policy for Adult Social Care – paying for care at home' be approved, with the following amendment to the wording of paragraph 5.6:

“A Service User is required to pay the full cost of the service if they refuse to disclose their financial means. Services requested by clients cannot be withdrawn because a person refuses to pay their contribution to their care costs or the full cost of care where appropriate. The County Council will pursue any debt incurred.”
- c) That short term residential services of up to eight weeks be brought under the single contributions policy framework for people living at home; and that a single financial assessment process is adopted, subject to a review of the Department of Health guidance.
- d) That the Executive Member for Adult Social Care be asked to consider any future amendments to the outline policy framework including a review of the recent Department of Health guidance.
- e) The policy be implemented at the end of July 2011, to enable those most affected to have time to plan for the increased contributions they will need to make; also ensuring clear and concise information is available to service users, carers, staff and the general public.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- a) A change to the current policy is required to complement the Hampshire Model for Personalisation approved by Cabinet in December 2008, which set

out the adult social care offer to local residents. New approaches and services have been developed and in this context the current charging framework is complex to apply fairly and transparently.

- b) A contributions policy framework that supports the Hampshire Model for Personalisation is essential to the delivery of effective and good quality adult services to the people who use them; and to the delivery of an efficient and economic service to the people of Hampshire.
- c) Extensive consultation on the proposals was undertaken from 4 October 2010 to 14 January 2011.
- d) The proposed policy would contribute to the Corporate Improvement Plan outcome area to give “greater choice in and control over adult social care and support”.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- a) Options for a new local policy framework based on service users making a contribution to the total personal budget have been carefully considered. Two options have been rejected. These are: ‘no change’ as this would be unworkable for the reasons set out above; and ‘no charging’ as this would result in a loss of income to the Council of approximately £7.5 million.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- a) Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None
- b) Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

28 February 2011

**Chairman of the Cabinet
Councillor T.K. Thornber, CBE**