

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	26 March 2012
Title:	Review of Adult Services Non Residential Care Contributions Policy in relation to service users who require two carers
Reference:	3792
Report From:	Director of Adult Services

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1. The decision:

- 1.1 That Cabinet give approval to the proposed approach to those that need two carers as set out in paragraph 3.4 of the report.
- 1.2 That Cabinet give approval to the write-off and/or repayment of charges associated with the cost of a second carer within the proposed approach, estimated at a cost of around £500K to be allocated from the Corporate Policy Reserve.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. Social care has always been chargeable but until recently many councils charged for specific services and have been able to subsidise the costs. In Hampshire, this included capping the cost at £440 per week. This was changed in 2011, following public consultation, as it did not benefit all service users and was therefore seen to be unfair.
- 2.2. People pay for social care services according to their means, not their needs/level of disability or the cost of the services they use (although people are not required to pay more than the total cost of their services). The financial assessment protects people from hardship due to paying for care. It ensures people are left with sufficient income to pay for their daily living costs, including additional expenses related to their condition and have some disposable income. People can choose to pay the full cost or have a financial assessment to work out what they need to pay. People with high means may forego the financial assessment and therefore be required to pay the full cost. Some people who are 'self funders' have services arranged by the Council, but many do not.
- 2.3. Some service users who have services arranged by the Council and are required under its contributions policy to pay for the full cost of services,

which includes having two carers, have challenged the fairness of the new policy because of the increase in their personal contribution.

3. Other options considered and rejected: None

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. 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: ----- Chairman of the Cabinet Councillor T. K. Thornber, CBE	Date: 26 March 2012
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