

DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

Fairer Contributions Policy

For Non Residential Services

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INDEX

	Page
Background	3
Policy Statement	3
Support Needs	4
Short Break Stay	5
The Financial Assessment	5
Process	5
Assessing an Individuals Ability to Pay	6
Income	6
Work Incentives	7
Capital, Savings and Assets	7
Allowances/Disregards	8
Full Cost of Service	9
Disability Related Expenditure (DRE)	9
The Welfare Rights Check	10
Other Advice	10
Treatment of Couples and other individuals living in the same household	11
Review of Assessed Charges	11
Change in Financial Circumstances	12
Collection of Charges	12
Appeals and Complaints Procedure	12
Appeals	12
Waiving the Charges	13
Debt Management	13
Complaints Process	13
Non-attendance	14
Disability Related Expenditure (Appendix 1)	15

Background

1. Fairer Charging Policies for Home care and other non-residential social services (the Fairer Charging guidance) was designed for an era of traditional local authority social care provision where people received services direct from the Local Authority or via independent providers under contract to the Local Authority. However, with increasing numbers of people receiving direct payments and the introduction of personal budgets to support greater choice and control comes the need to reconsider how an individual's contribution towards non-residential services, if any, might be worked out.
2. Typically an individual's charge for non-residential services has been based on the number of units of different types of community care services they have received. In the case of direct payments, financial contributions towards the cost of care have been calculated on a comparable basis.
3. A personal budget is an upfront allocation of social care resources to a person who is eligible for support. Following an assessment of their need for non-residential social services, a person who the council consider eligible for support will be allocated an amount of money necessary to meet their needs.
4. People will have the option to take a personal budget as commissioned services or as a statutory direct payments or a mixture of both.
5. Currently, the cost of service for charging purposes is calculated depending on the composition of an individual's care package, i.e. hourly for home care and daily for day care.
6. When a personal budget is taken as a direct payment as opposed to commissioned service, the individual may purchase different types of community care services which may not correspond with the current classifications, i.e. home care and day care, therefore, the fairer contributions policy aims to calculate what an individual can afford to pay towards the total cost of their assessed needs.

Policy Statement

7. This policy has been written in accordance with Fairer Charging Guidance 2003 issued by the Department of Health and the Fairer Contributions Guidance. The power to charge for services is given to local authorities under Section 17 of the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983 and guidance on the exercise of this power is issued by the Secretary of State under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970

8. Darlington Borough Council will use its legal powers to charge for non- residential Social Care Services in a manner consistent with the legislation, official guidance and best practice. The Contributions Policy will be periodically reviewed by the Council. Appropriate consultation will be carried out in respect of any proposed changes.
9. The Adult Social Care Contributions Policy for non-residential services will:
 - a. Ensure that all Adult Social Care Individuals are treated on an equal basis
 - b. Be based upon ‘ability to pay’ as determined by the Financial Assessment process, applying all national guidelines and any locally approved concessions
 - c. Ensure that the income of Individuals is maximised with particular reference to Welfare Benefits and other sources of income
 - d. Ensure that Disability Related Expenditure is assessed in a proactive, consistent and sensitive manner
 - e. Ensure that the Policy (and appropriate guidance) is transparent to external scrutiny, widely advertised, and is available in a variety of media, versions and languages to meet the communication needs of the full range of Individuals
 - f. Apply the capital limits set out in the Charging for Residential Accommodation Guidance (CRAG) Section 6.
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_097578
 - g. Exercise discretion to waive charges in a fair and transparent manner.

Support Needs

10. In Darlington, the types of support you will be required to contribute towards are:
 - a. Personal Care
 - b. Domestic Care
 - c. Sitting Services
 - d. Direct Payments
 - e. Sleepovers
 - f. Day Care
 - g. Transport as provided in conjunction with the provision of community care services
 - h. Social Activities e.g. visiting a museum, bowling etc.
 - i. Assistive Technology i.e. Telecare
 - j. Bathing Service
11. Whether the service is commissioned by Darlington Borough Council or given as a Direct Payments the total cost of the package will be calculated. The Individual will be financially assessed to determine their maximum contribution they need to pay towards a 100% of the total cost of their package.

12. Services which are not included within the contributions policy but are charged at a flat rate, and not part of the financial assessment.
 - a. Frozen meals
 - b. Meals at Day Care (It is the expectation that where a Individual is in a 24 hour residential or nursing placement, that the provider would pay the charge of the meal or provide a suitable alternative)

13. In Darlington, the services that will **not** be charged for are:
 - a. After-care, relating to an individual psychiatric need, which has been provided under Section 117 of the amendments to the Mental Health Act 1983 (2007) may not be charged for under Section 17 of the Health And Social Services And Social Security Adjudications Act 1983
 - b. Rehabilitation, training, employment or drop in services
 - c. The Council will not charge for the giving of advice about the availability of services
 - d. Assessment, including assessment of community care needs.
 - e. Individuals of non residential social services who have any form of Creutzfeldt Jacob Disease (CJD) should not undergo a financial assessment but should be treated as automatically exempt.
 - f. Community Equipment, e.g. bath hoist, handrail
 - g. Carers Services.
 - h. Reablement
 - i. Other exemptions apply as per Fairer Charging Guidance 2003 and CRAG 2010.

Short Break Stay

14. Any assessed need for short break stays in a residential care home will be financially assessed in accordance with the Charging for Residential Accommodation Guide (CRAG). Under Direct Payment legislation direct payments cannot be made for purchasing more than four continuous weeks of residential care per year.

The Financial Assessment

15. Any Individual who has non residential support needs will be offered a financial assessment. The purpose of this assessment is to calculate the ability to contribute towards the cost of these services and to enable Individuals to maximize benefits to which they may be entitled.

Process

16. The Financial Assessment will be conducted in the Individuals own home, or at a location of their choice wherever possible.

17. Where the Individual has a representative, i.e. Deputy, Power of Attorney or Appointee that deals with their financial affairs, they must be present at the visit to sign the documentation.
18. If the Individual does not have a legal representative who deals with their financial affairs they may wish to have a carer, relative, advocate or a friend present during the visit.
19. Financial information will be gathered and recorded on a Financial Assessment Form which is signed by the Individual (or their representative) and the Visiting Financial Assessment Officer to confirm its accuracy. An estimated charge will be left with the Individual.
20. Charges should not be made for any period before an assessment of charges has been communicated to the Individual. However, where the Individual has not co-operated reasonably with the financial assessment, charges may be made. In such situations, charges will be made from the date that the initial appointment was made with the Visiting Financial Assessment Officer.
21. Written confirmation of the assessed charge will be sent to the Individual (or their representative) within five working days of the visit or two working days for urgent cases.
22. Where an assessed need has been identified services will commence regardless of whether a financial assessment has been completed. No charge will be made to the service user until the financial assessment has been completed and charges will not be backdated to the commencement of the service.
23. If the initial assessment could not be completed or was incorrect upon checking, the charge will commence the week after the confirmation letter has been sent out.

Assessing an Individuals Ability to Pay

24. This will consist of:
 - a. Calculating a Individuals total income and Capital
 - b. Calculating disregards and allowances
 - c. Disability Related Expenditure Assessment
 - d. A comprehensive welfare rights check.

Income

25. Income is assessed net of any Income Tax and National Insurance contributions payable and net of any housing costs such as rent or mortgage and Council Tax and includes the following:

- a. Retirement Pension
 - b. Income Support/Pension Credit
 - c. Attendance allowance
 - d. Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Care Component
 - e. Private/occupational Pensions
 - f. War Widow/War Disability pensions
 - g. Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - h. Incapacity Benefits
 - i. Rental Income except where this income is as j below.
 - j. Earned income will not be taken into account
26. AA and DLA Care Component are paid at the higher rate if a person has day and night needs. If a person is not receiving night time care arranged by the Council then the Council cannot consider sums paid for night care as income. If night time care is arranged by the Council, the full benefit will be treated as income.

Work Incentives

27. As earnings rise, entitlement to Housing Benefits and Council Tax Benefits falls. Therefore, housing costs and Council Tax is assessed net of any Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit payable. This means that if either benefit is withdrawn as earnings rise, the increase in the net housing and Council Tax costs will be reflected in the assessment.
28. Working Tax Credit which, replaced Working Families Tax Credit and Disabled Persons Tax Credit, is disregarded as income in the financial assessment
29. All earnings are disregarded as part of the financial assessment for non-residential social services. This includes financial assessments for carers. "Earnings" should be defined in the same way as in the Charging for Residential Accommodation Guidance (CRAG).

Capital, Savings and Assets

30. The Council will take into account all monies held by a Individual when calculating a charge towards home care and other non residential services subject to the capital limits set out in the Charging for Residential Accommodation Guidance (CRAG) Section 6
31. Capital will be taken into account to calculate a tariff income on the same basis as set out in CRAG. These savings limits will be updated in line with any CRAG uplifts.
32. Individuals with capital above the upper limit will be asked to pay the full charge for the service.
33. Capital held which is below the lower limit will be fully disregarded from the Financial Assessment.

34. When capital is held which is above the lower capital limit but below the upper capital limit a weekly income of £1.00 for every complete £250.00 or part of £250.00 will be taken. This is called tariff income.
35. The value of the main residence occupied by the Individual will not be taken into account for non residential social services, but other forms of capital will be taken into account as set out in CRAG.
36. Any joint savings will be included equally unless evidence can be provided to show otherwise.
37. Any properties other than the main residence will be treated as a capital asset, the council may obtain a valuation to determine the value of the asset.
38. As per CRAG compensation awards comprise of two elements, the first element is the actual compensation award, the lump sum, which is defined as capital, which is disregarded in the financial assessment and the second any income that the lump sum produces will be included within the financial assessment.

Allowances/ Disregards

39. An Individual's income will not be reduced by charges below the Standard Minimum Guarantee plus a buffer of 25%. This is calculated according to age, level of impairment, marital and family status, according to Department for Work and Pensions limits.
40. 50% of the Severe Disability Premium will be disregarded for Individuals in receipt of this premium or if they have an underlying entitlement to it.
41. The Savings Credit Reward will be fully disregarded.
42. Any mortgage and rent payable, net of any housing benefit are disregarded. A disregard will only be made if the individual's name is on the deeds of the property or is included on the tenancy agreement and are deemed eligible under the housing benefit rules. A disregard will only be made for non dependants if a non dependant deduction has been made by Housing Benefits or if the Individual's name is on the deeds of the property.
43. Any council tax payable net of council tax benefit is disregarded.
44. Disability Related Expenditure is disregarded
45. £10 per week of War Disability Pensions and War Widows Pension is disregarded
46. The mobility component of DLA is excluded by law from being taken into account for charges. War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement is also disregarded.

Full Cost of Service

47. If an Individual chooses not to supply all of the information requested on the Financial Assessment form they will be asked to complete a Full Cost of Service Declaration. This will result in the Individual being charged the maximum rate applied by the Council or 100% of the cost of the service whichever is less.
48. If the Individual has capital in excess of the upper capital limit they will also be charged the maximum rate applied by the Council, or the cost of service, whichever is less.

Disability Related Expenditure (DRE)

49. The Department of Health of Guidance (2009) states in relation to Disability Related Expenditure (DRE) "It is not possible to give a completely comprehensive list of disability related expenditure which could legitimately be claimed for, however the overall aim of the policy is to allow for reasonable expenditure needed for independent living by a disabled person"
50. All Individuals will be asked if they have any Disability Related Expenditure and the cost of this will be assessed and given as a disregard/allowance in line with Council policy.
51. Where a disregard is relevant, evidence of actual expenditure will be requested. If receipts have not been kept the Council can request that this is done for future expenditure. It is legitimate that the Council can verify that items that have been claimed for have been purchased.
52. Generally, disregards should be given based on past expenditure; however in some cases estimates of annual expenditure based on available evidence can be made.
53. Allowances for Disability Related Expenditure can be set for a fixed period ahead but the Individual must be informed that they may seek a review at any time if their Disability Related Expenditure changes. This will require supplementary evidence.
54. If the Individual fails to keep future receipts and there is doubt as to whether the expenditure was actually incurred it is reasonable for the Council not to include this in the assessment.
55. Where the Individual has chosen to pay privately for disability related care services normally provided by the Council, the permitted allowance would not exceed the normal cost if the Council provides those services. These allowances would only be permitted when the Care Manager agrees that there is a support need.
56. Disability Living Allowance Mobility Component cannot be treated as income as part of the financial assessment. However, transport costs do not need to be allowed as DRE if

the Mobility Component (or Mobility vehicle) is considered available to meet such costs. Additional transport costs over and above the Mobility Component should be allowed if necessitated by illness or disability.

57. Where a Community Alarm is provided it will be charged for at the ongoing rate and cannot be means tested. The actual cost, net of any Housing Benefit or Supporting People Grant will be considered for an allowance under the Disability Related Expenditure Assessment.
58. The Community Alarm Service is classed as a dispersed alarm unit (stand alone or hard wired), plus either a pendant and or a pull cord. Any other alarm equipment linked to the dispersed alarm unit is outside of the definition of a Community Alarm Service. Darlington's Housing Department apply a charge for this service, which is reviewed on an annual basis.
59. The Disability Related Expenditure Assessment will be reviewed on an annual basis as part of the Financial Reassessment.
60. The council may use its discretion to allow costs without evidence being provided.

The Welfare Rights Check

61. After the Financial Assessment has been completed the Visiting Financial Assessment Officer should ensure that appropriate benefits advice is given to all Individuals. This should include advice about benefit eligibility; help with the completion of benefit claims and the follow up of claims with the benefit provider where the Individual wishes this. As most decisions about benefit entitlement carry the right of appeal, then the Visiting Financial Assessment Officer should suggest that expert advice be sought as early as possible to avoid loss of benefit and avoid lengthy appeal processes.
62. Advice should not be limited to benefits directly affecting charges. It will therefore include Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit, and Council Tax Discounts and reductions as well as the core benefits of Income Support and Pension Credits, disability benefits (AA/DLA) and Tax Credits.
63. The Individual should also be notified whether charges are likely to increase if the benefit application is successful.
64. Some Individuals may prefer to obtain independent Welfare Rights advice from agencies such as Age Concern, Citizens Advice Bureau and should be offered this choice. Where the Individual has given permission, information regarding the financial assessment will be exchanged with the relevant agency.
65. Individuals can choose not to take the advice offered by the Visiting Financial Assessment Officer. Where the Individual fails to make a claim for a benefit that they

will be entitled to, this may result in this amount being treated as notional i.e. as if it is still there

Other Advice

66. During the home visit information about other services available to the Individual should be provided. This might include information about Influenza Vaccine campaigns, Lifeline/Assistive Technology, heating schemes for older people and Council/PCT events in the area for vulnerable groups of people.

Treatment of Couples and other individuals living in the same household

67. The Council will only consider an individual's means when assessing their ability to pay a charge. Therefore, parents and other members of an adult user's family will not be required to pay the charges, except in certain legal circumstances, for example, where a family member is managing the Individual's financial resources i.e. Appointee, Deputy, Power of Attorney.
68. The Council can consider a Individual's means that include resources that are not held in that person's name, but the Individual has legal entitlement to. If the Council believes that the Individual has means that were not initially disclosed then the partner's relevant resources will need to be disclosed. If the partner does not provide the necessary information and the Council is not satisfied that the Individual has insufficient funds to pay for their care, and then a request for the Individual to pay the full cost of care may be made.
69. If savings are held jointly then they will be treated as being divided equally between the owners unless information can be provided to confirm that this is not the case.
70. In some cases benefits such as Income Support and Pension Credits are calculated for the need of a couple and may be paid to one partner but are paid for a couple. In these instances it is not possible to apportion the money to each individual. Therefore, it is reasonable to take into account income that has been paid jointly. However the expenditure needs of both partners should also be taken into account. Therefore, basic levels of Income Support/Guaranteed Credit plus 25% buffer would be applied as a disregard.
71. If the assessment of need is for one partner then the outcome of the joint Financial Assessment would be halved.
72. Where an individual lives in a family home e.g. an adult son/daughter living with parents or parent living in son/daughter's family home, and that individual makes a contribution to the household expenses i.e. board, the provision of meals and accommodation, no disregard will be given for the board element as this is already taken into account with the award of the standard minimum guarantee plus 25%.

Review of Assessed Charges

73. All Individuals will have their charges reassessed on an annual basis in line with the commencement date of their service.
74. A financial reassessment will be completed as a result of any changes in financial circumstances. This includes being awarded new benefits (e.g. Attendance Allowance) and the payments of new income.

Change in Financial Circumstances

75. It is the responsibility of the Individual or their representative to inform Adult Social Care of any relevant change of financial circumstances, as failure to do so may lead to backdated charges.
76. The Individual will be notified in writing of any alteration to their weekly contribution, as a result of any changes. Any change to the Individual's weekly contribution may be from the date of such change.
77. An Individual or their authorised representative can request a reassessment of their charges at any time.

Collection of Charges

78. All Individuals will be invoiced on a 4 weekly basis, in arrears for their assessed charge.

Appeals and Complaints Procedure

Appeals

79. An Individual or their authorised representative can request a review of their financial assessment and their charge at any time.
80. If the client disagrees with the initial assessment then a visit will be made by a different Visiting Financial Assessment Officer to verify the assessment. This will be completed within 10 working days and a written reply made setting out the reasons for maintaining or amending the present charge.
81. If the Individual or their authorised representative still disputes the charge, then a further review will be completed by the Visiting Financial Assessment Officers' line manager. Again, a written reply will be sent out confirming the reasons for maintaining or amending the current charge.

82. If the Individual still remains dissatisfied regarding the outcome of their appeal then the Director of Community Services or a nominated officer will hear appeals against decisions made by the Financial Assessment Section.
83. The Director of Community Services or a nominated officer will deal with requests for reviews of matters relating to Darlington Borough Council's Contributions policy for non residential services.
84. At any time in this process the Individual or their representative can make a complaint under the Adult Social Care Complaints Procedure.

Waiving the Charges

85. In exceptional cases, the charges for Community Care services may be waived. Cases will be considered individually based upon the effect to the Individual. This may include cases where the Individual would refuse essential services if they were required to pay or if they or if they persistently refuse to pay any charge levied.
86. In such cases, the Care Manager and their Team Manager will submit a report outlining the client's circumstances and the reasons why they believe that the charges should be waived to the Assistant Director Adult Social Care and health for approval. Approval may be given retrospectively and the Individual would be reimbursed for contributions paid back to the date that approval was effective. It can also be given for a specified period of time to give the Individual the opportunity to reassess their own position on paying for their care.
87. The Council has a responsibility to provide care and support to people assessed as needing it through a Community Care Assessment regardless of the Individuals ability or willingness to pay. Services that are essential to support someone safely in the community should not be withdrawn because the person refuses to pay. Where the person withdraws themselves from services further enquiries and alternative advice and assistance will be offered.

Debt Management

88. The management of outstanding debt will be undertaken in a balanced manner. It is the responsibility of Officers of the Local Authority to collect money due to the Council. This will be done in a sensitive manner and in a progressive way with court action being the very last resort.

Complaints Procedure

89. Darlington Adult Social Care welcomes and responds positively to all comments, compliments and complaints as a means of demonstrating it's commitment to working in partnership with individuals and carers and improving services.

90. The Adult Social Care Complaints Procedure comprises of one stage after which the complainant should be advised to discuss the matter with the Complaints Manager or refer the matter to the Local Government Ombudsman.
91. Although complainants can refer their complaint from the outset to the Local Government Ombudsman, they will not normally investigate the matter until the Council has conducted its own investigation and made a response.
92. More information is available from:

Adult and Children's Social Care Complaints Officer
Town Hall
Darlington
DL1 5QT
Tel: 01325 388043

www.darlington.gov.uk/complaints

93. Complaints concerning the conduct of Officers of the Council will be dealt with under the Council's employment policy and procedures.

Non-attendance at Services Commissioned by Adult Social Care

94. Where an Individual does not require their non residential social care, then providing they give 48 hours notice, they will not be charged. Where notice has not been given, charges may only be waived at the discretion of the appropriate Service Manager, e.g. emergency admission to hospital.

ASSESSMENT OF DISABILITY RELATED EXPENDITURE 2010-2011

It is not possible to give a completely comprehensive list of DRE expenditure which could be legitimately claimed for. Expenditure must be identified in consultation with the service user and by reference to the care plan and/or with advice from the care manager.

Decisions in each case must be reasonable and take into account:

- the needs and capacity of the individual
- the circumstances, needs and health of others living in the household,
- the availability of voluntary help
- actual expenditure and whether a cheaper alternative is reasonably available to the service user.

Disability Related Expense		Evidence Required
Alarm Line (Community Alarm System)	Actual cost (unless paid for by Supporting People Grant) up to maximum weekly disregard £4.64 per week	Check Lifeline services/bills from provider/Direct Debit on bank statements.
Chiropody	Not normally allowed unless special circumstances as should be provided under NHS. Health Chiropodist allows 3 visits per year. If paying privately allow up to 3 visits unless there are exceptional circumstances preventing them from using the NHS e.g. a long waiting list for free treatment and made private arrangements until they can be seen.	Bill/receipt /bank statement Confirmation of need from care manager or doctor/health professional.
Domestic help – Private (e.g. housework and shopping), where service user is unable to do this as a result of disability and there is no-one else in the household who could reasonably be expected to		Bill/receipt/bank statement/contract/ letter Confirmation of need from care manager.

Disability Related Expense				Evidence Required																																
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Clothing and footwear May include specialised clothing or footwear, or frequent replacement, e.g. for people with physical disabilities, mental health problems or learning disabilities.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="695 358 1108 472">Item</th> <th data-bbox="1108 358 1283 472">Standard No. per year</th> <th data-bbox="1283 358 1541 472">Standard Annual Cost £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 472 1108 513">Thermal Underwear</td> <td data-bbox="1108 472 1283 513">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 472 1541 513">£25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 513 1108 553">Underwear</td> <td data-bbox="1108 513 1283 553">10</td> <td data-bbox="1283 513 1541 553">£ 35.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 553 1108 626">Skirts/Trousers/Jogging Pants</td> <td data-bbox="1108 553 1283 626">6</td> <td data-bbox="1283 553 1541 626">£147.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 626 1108 667">Dresses</td> <td data-bbox="1108 626 1283 667">6</td> <td data-bbox="1283 626 1541 667">£222.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 667 1108 708">Blouses/Shirts/T-Shirts</td> <td data-bbox="1108 667 1283 708">6</td> <td data-bbox="1283 667 1541 708">£111.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 708 1108 748">Jumpers/Cardigans</td> <td data-bbox="1108 708 1283 748">6</td> <td data-bbox="1283 708 1541 748">£111.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 748 1108 789">Socks/Tights/Stockings</td> <td data-bbox="1108 748 1283 789">6</td> <td data-bbox="1283 748 1541 789">£ 15.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 789 1108 829">Shoes</td> <td data-bbox="1108 789 1283 829">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 789 1541 829">£ 74.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 829 1108 870">Slippers</td> <td data-bbox="1108 829 1283 870">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 829 1541 870">£ 25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 870 1108 938">Nightwear</td> <td data-bbox="1108 870 1283 938">4</td> <td data-bbox="1283 870 1541 938">£ 74.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item	Standard No. per year	Standard Annual Cost £	Thermal Underwear	2	£25.00	Underwear	10	£ 35.00	Skirts/Trousers/Jogging Pants	6	£147.60	Dresses	6	£222.00	Blouses/Shirts/T-Shirts	6	£111.00	Jumpers/Cardigans	6	£111.00	Socks/Tights/Stockings	6	£ 15.00	Shoes	2	£ 74.00	Slippers	2	£ 25.00	Nightwear	4	£ 74.00		Bill/receipts/bank statement
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Bedding and Toweling	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="695 938 1108 1052">Item</th> <th data-bbox="1108 938 1283 1052">Standard No. per year</th> <th data-bbox="1283 938 1541 1052">Standard Annual Cost £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1052 1108 1092">Single Sheets</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1052 1283 1092">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1052 1541 1092">£18.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1092 1108 1133">Double Sheets</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1092 1283 1133">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1092 1541 1133">£25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1133 1108 1174">Single Quilt Cover</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1133 1283 1174">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1133 1541 1174">£25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1174 1108 1214">Double Quilt Cover</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1174 1283 1214">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1174 1541 1214">£37.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1214 1108 1255">Pillow Cases</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1214 1283 1255">4</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1214 1541 1255">£16.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1255 1108 1295">Blankets</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1255 1283 1295">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1255 1541 1295">£25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1295 1108 1336">Pillows</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1295 1283 1336">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1295 1541 1336">£9.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1336 1108 1377">Single Quilt</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1336 1283 1377">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1336 1541 1377">£25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1377 1108 1417">Double Quilt</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1377 1283 1417">2</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1377 1541 1417">£37.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1417 1108 1427">Hand Towels</td> <td data-bbox="1108 1417 1283 1427">4</td> <td data-bbox="1283 1417 1541 1427">£20.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item	Standard No. per year	Standard Annual Cost £	Single Sheets	2	£18.00	Double Sheets	2	£25.00	Single Quilt Cover	2	£25.00	Double Quilt Cover	2	£37.00	Pillow Cases	4	£16.00	Blankets	2	£25.00	Pillows	2	£9.00	Single Quilt	2	£25.00	Double Quilt	2	£37.00	Hand Towels	4	£20.00		
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Disability Related Expense				Evidence Required
	Bath Towels	4	£40.00	
	Face Cloths	4	£8.00	
Dogs for the Disabled (e.g. blind, deaf or epileptic)	Often provided free from relevant organisation (including training & vets bills). If not, allow up to £3.80 per week			None required up to this figure
Gardening (where client is unable to maintain due to disability and no-one else in household can reasonably be expected to assist) Check if local gardening scheme available.	Actual cost up to £3.46 per week.			Receipts/ bank statements/ bill/invoice. Confirmation of need from care manager
Heating Exceptional as a result of disability (gas/electricity)	Standard Weekly Cost			12 months of bills. Confirmation of need from care manager.
	Type of property	Lives alone	Lives with others	
	Flat or Terrace	£18.40	£24.23	
	Semi-Detached	£19.54	£25.73	
	Detached	£23.77	£31.31	
Laundry Includes: additional costs of washing powder, cleaning materials, wear & tear on washing machine, washing clothing & bedding.	£3.15 per week for more than 4 loads per week £6.00 per week for laundry costs			Confirmation of need from care manager
Medical Expenses (non prescription items e.g. incontinence creams, wipes etc)	Actual expenditure above £6 per week			None required up to this figure – receipts/bills if above this level.

Disability Related Expense		Evidence Required
Personal Care – Private - e.g. bathing, washing feeding and dressing.	Council rate per hour if Care Manager confirms requirement as part of the Care Plan and Council supported care is reduced accordingly.	Bill/receipt/bank statement/service agreement/letter from carer. Check with care manager if assessed need for care and Council supported care reduced accordingly.
Prescriptions where have to pay	Allow cost of annual prepayment certificate divided by 52, or actual cost of prescriptions, whichever is lower.	None required up to this figure
Holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Standard cost of holiday • Allow difference between actual cost and standard cost, divided by the number of people in the party. • Allow additional costs for disability related adaptations plus cost of accommodation for Personal Assistant. • No family members are included in cost. • Personal Assistants expenses not allowed if on Direct Payments. • Maximum allowance to be applied. 	Receipts/bank statements/fees/invoices.
*Special equipment – purchase, maintenance, loans and rent (e.g. wheelchair, powered or turning beds, hoist and stairlift). May include purchase or rental cost of computers and software where advice from an O.T. can be obtained.	<p>Allow the lowest amount of the Actual cost over 10 years (520 weeks), or Maximum Weekly Charge.</p> <p>If the equipment is to assist mobility outdoors then the cost will only be given if it is necessitated by illness or disability and is over and above mobility payments. Proof of expenditure must be provided.</p>	Confirmation of need from care manager or Occupational Therapy worker. Evidence of purchase

Disability Related Expense			Evidence Required
	<p style="text-align: center;">Item</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Maximum weekly allowance</p>	
	Manual Wheelchair	£3.26	
	Powered Wheelchair	£7.96	
	Powered Bed	£3.66	
	Turning Bed	£6.34	
	Powered reclining chair	£2.89	
	Stairlift	£5.13	
	Hoist	£2.52	
<p>Transport Costs – other, related to disability e.g. taxis, cost of travel to maintain social contact if public transport cannot be used.</p>	<p>Transport needs would need to be included in the care plan or identified by the care manager and will only be allowed if necessitated by illness or disability over and above mobility payments.</p>		<p>Bill/receipt/bank statement/agreement</p>