

## Equality Impact Assessment Form (Page 1 of 2)

**Title of EIA/ DDM:**

**Department: Children and Families**

**Service Area: Adult Social Care**

**Author (assigned to Covalent): N/A**

**Name of Author: Linda Sellars**

**Director: Helen Jones**

**Strategic Budget EIA Y**

### **Brief description of proposal / policy / service being assessed:**

Implementation of increases to fees and charges for Adult Social Care. This will result in citizens who are financially able contributing more towards the full cost of their personal budget.

This policy change is based on increases but will not amount to full recovery. The fairer charging policy is to be introduced for those citizens receiving Care, Support and Enablement services. Day Care will increase from £5 to £12 per day. Transport to Day Centres will increase from £5 to £8 per return journey.

It is important to note that the Fairer Charging policy ensures that citizens only pay for Council care services if they can afford to do so and that many citizens' care is fully subsidised by the Council as they have been assessed as being unable, financially, to contribute towards the cost of their care. Increasing charges for those who can afford to pay with support long term sustainability of the services.

### **Information used to analyse the effects on equality:**

Feedback from changes to citizen contributions in November 2012 and Carefirst data. Local cost modelling has been undertaken linked to actual costs and inflation; national research and guidance; the results of consultation with stakeholders are below

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of July permission was sought and agreed to consult with all citizens receiving Care, Support and Enablement, Day Care and Transport to ask them to complete a survey to express their views.

The proposal consulted on consists of:

- The existing fairer charging policy to be introduced for those citizens receiving Care, Support and Enablement services.
- The charging for Traditional Day Care to increase from £5 to £12 per day.
- The charging for Traditional Transport to Day Centres to increase from £5 to £8 per return

The period of consultation was one month and responses to the survey have now been collated. Approximately 400 citizens were sent consultation letters, 182 surveys were completed. Of those who returned the survey 76% described their ethnicity as White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, British, 14% as Asian – Indian, 5% Black – Caribbean, 2% as White – Other, 1% Asian – Pakistani, 2% as other. This was a proportionate representation of those written too.

82% of respondents strongly agreed/ agreed that the system Nottingham City Council operates should be fair to everyone. 11% of

respondents strongly disagreed / disagreed

60% of respondents strongly agreed/ agreed that citizens should pay towards their care package if they have been assessed as being able to afford to. 38% of respondents strongly disagreed/ disagreed

48% of respondents strongly agreed/ agreed with an increase to contributions as the funding budget reduces. 43% of respondents strongly disagreed / disagreed.

	Could particularly benefit X	May adversely impact X	How different groups could be affected (Summary of impacts)	Details of actions to reduce negative or increase positive impact (or why action isn't possible)
People from different ethnic groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<p>The following impacts have been identified:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The implementation would not have an impact on citizens who are assessed as being financially unable to contribute to the cost of their care.</li> <li>•Approximately 1230 citizens currently pay for part of or all of their social care service. This proposal would affect 395 citizens who currently use a combination of day care, transport and/or Care Support and Enablement. 200 citizens will see an increase of below £15 a week, 110 citizens will see an increase between £15.01-£40.00 week , 67 citizens will see an increase of above £40.01-£80.00 and 18 citizens would see an increase of above £80.00. Of the 147 citizens who currently only receive a service from the existing Care, Support and</li> </ul>	<p>The Fairer Charging Guidance is used when assessing a citizen's ability to pay and the guidance includes a number of safeguards against the negative impacts of citizens being required to contribute towards the cost of their care (for example taking into account household disability related expenditure).</p> <p>Consultation has taken place with relevant stakeholders and steps were taken to ensure disabled citizens and citizens whose first language is not English were not disadvantaged in the consultation process. Individual consultation letters were set to affected citizens or their invoicee and a helpline operated which a number of citizens utilised</p> <p>As part of the consultation all citizens where made aware of their right to a financial assessment and the</p>
Men	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	x		
Trans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Disabled people or carers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	x		
Pregnancy/ Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
People of different faiths/ beliefs and those with none.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lesbian, gay or bisexual people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Older	<input type="checkbox"/>	x		
Younger	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (e.g. marriage/ civil partnership, looked after children, cohesion/ good relations, vulnerable children/ adults).				
<b><i>Please underline the group(s) /issue more adversely affected or which benefits.</i></b>				

Vulnerable Adults

Enablement framework it is estimated 100 citizens will be required to pay a contribution. This average contribution would be approximately £20 a week.

- Based on the profile of the citizens affected (those receiving social care support from the Council who are assessed as able to pay for all or part of this service), the people who would be affected as a result of needing to contribute more are statistically more likely to be disabled, older, and/or female citizens as these groups are over-represented in the adult social care user population.
- However, charging is always subject to a Fairer Charging assessment of what individuals may be able to contribute, so the proposal would not result in people no longer being able to receive the social care services they currently receive. If the increase meant that citizens could no longer afford services, they would be entitled to a financial assessment (or reassessment) that would ensure their needs are still met and that they only contribute the amount they can afford.
- This proposal aims to promote equality by ensuring all groups are asked to contribute in the same way towards the cost of the services they receive.

A number of citizens may choose to cancel part or all of their social care

offering of support to find alternative more cost effective support. 14 citizens have requested this support and will be offered this support as part of the implementation process.

			support which could increase isolation or pressure on informal carers	
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**Outcome(s) of equality impact assessment:**

- No major change needed
- Adjust the policy/proposal
- Adverse impact but continue x
- Stop and remove the policy/proposal

**Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this proposal / policy / service:**

This assessment will be updated with additional analysis once the decision is made to proceed to consultation. Updated 15/07/2015 by Linda Sellars

- Beyond this the EIA will be reviewed when and if the citizen contribution policy is reviewed.
- The Adult Assessment service periodically works with the Council's Disability Involvement Group to review the impact of policies and services.

**Approved by (manager signature):**

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