

## **Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Wellbeing to the meeting of Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 25 January 2018**

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### **Subject:**

**Health and Wellbeing Non Residential Contributions Policy**

### **Summary statement:**

**To report back on the following resolutions from the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Thursday 8 September 2016**

### **Resolved –**

- (1) That consideration be given by the Executive to a more incremental approach to the introduction of the Standard Assessment process.**
  
- (2) That, on the assumption that the changes to the Contributions Policy be approved by the Executive, an update report be submitted to the Committee in six months and to include consideration of ways to improve consultation with vulnerable groups.**

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:  
  
Health and Social Care

## 1. SUMMARY

To report back on the following resolutions from the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee of Thursday 8 September 2016:

**Resolved –**

- (1) That consideration be given by the Executive to a more incremental approach to the introduction of the Standard Assessment process.**
- (2) That, on the assumption that the changes to the Contributions Policy be approved by the Executive, an update report be submitted to the Committee in six months and to include consideration of ways to improve consultation with vulnerable groups.**

## 2. BACKGROUND

The implementation of the new contributions policy was consulted on from February to August 2016. The report on the outcome of the consultation was taken to the Councils Executive Committee on 20 September 2016. The Committee agreed that the new contributions policy should be implemented. During the committee process the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee asked that an update be given after 6 months.

## 3. REPORT ISSUES

The new charging policy was implemented from 2 October 2017. The new policy retains the principle that individual service users, including those with limited income, are not required to contribute more than they can reasonably afford. As such, from 2 October 2017 onwards all existing service users will have a new needs assessment/review, financial assessment with help to maximise benefits, review of DRE and affordability of any contribution. There is also an appeals process if the service user cannot afford any newly assessed contribution.

As part of the implementation arrangements, we agreed to put in place an incremental approach to reduce the burden on service users. In practice this means that where the individual assessment process identifies a change the contribution we will work with the person's, family members, carers and advocates introducing the change in a phased approach. For those who will be affected by the new policy we will be suggesting the following approach as part of the implementation process:

For those who will pay less than the current charge	Move to the new policy straight away
For those who the change will be less than £10.00	Move to the new policy straight away
For those who the change will be over £10.00	Pay 25% for 6 months Pay 50% for 6 months Pay 75% for 6 months Pay 100% for 6 months

From the 2 October 2016 to 31 December 2016 we have completed 453 of the 3500 (13%) reassessments of existing people and a summary of the results are as follows. Please note the percentages are calculated against the cohort of 453 that has been assessed to date:

#### Adults Under 25

- 12 of the people reassessed (3%) have seen their contribution reduced.
- 1 of the people reassessed has seen no change to their contribution.
- 28 of the people reassessed (6%) have seen their contribution increased and of the people who have seen an increase 7 (25% of the 28) have been given a transitional allowance.

#### Working Age Adults

- 45 of the people reassessed (10%) have seen their contribution reduced.
- 16 of the people reassessed (4%) have seen no change to their contribution.
- 170 of the people reassessed (37%) have seen their contribution increased and of the people who have seen an increase 75 (44% of the 170 ) have been given a transitional allowance

#### Older People

- 67 of the people reassessed (15%) have seen their contribution reduced.
- 21 of the people reassessed (5%) have seen no change to their contribution.
- 93 of the people reassessed (20%) have seen their contribution increased and of the people who have seen an increase 83 (89% of the 93 ) have been given a transitional allowance

Work on financial assessments will continue to take place on an on-going basis and we are hoping to have this completed for the current cohort within the next 12 months.

## **4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

In finalising the budget for 2016/17 onwards at Council on 25 February 2016, the Director of Finance report Document R 'The Council's Revenue Estimates for 2016-17 and 2017-18' was agreed.

The report included proposal 3A1 and identified additional income of £466,000 in 2016/17 and a further £611,000 in 2017/18 as a result of 'Changes to the Contributions Policy for Adult Social Care'.

Any shortfall in the achievement of that identified income will need to be found from elsewhere within the Adult Social Care budget.

## **5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

There are no risk management or Governance issues in relation to this report.

## **6. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

This report is an update on the report on the outcome of the consultation on the new contributions policy taken to the Executive Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016. It was agreed to implement the new policy.

## **7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

This report is an update on the report on the outcome of the consultation on the new contributions policy taken to the Executive Committee on 20 September 2016. It was agreed to implement the new policy.

### **7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific sustainability implications in this report.

### **7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS**

N/A

### **7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific community safety implications in this report.

### **7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

This report is an update on the report on the outcome of the consultation on the new contributions policy taken to the Executive Committee on 20 September 2016. It was agreed to implement the new policy.

### **7.6 TRADE UNION**

There are no current Trade Union matters for consideration. However as the work progresses, should any Trade Union implications be identified which need to be considered, will be addressed through the usual consultation mechanisms.

### **7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific Ward or area implications in this report.

**8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

None

**9. OPTIONS**

This report is an update on the report on the outcome of the consultation on the new contributions policy taken to the Executive Committee on 20 September 2016. It was agreed to implement the new policy.

**10. RECOMMENDATION**

That the report be noted.