

the week that the financial assessment is carried out or following the end of a period of free service where this applies to you.

Free Home Care

We may be able to provide a free Home Care Service to you, if you:

- Are assessed as not having to pay towards the cost of your care
- Have Home Care services under Section 117 of the Mental Health Act
- Have Home care as a result of a Child in Need Assessment
- Have Home Care as a result of a Carer's Assessment
- Have Creutzfeld-Jacob Disease
- Are receiving care at home as an alternative to you being in hospital. This includes active therapy provided by the Health Service.

Paying for Home Care

The preferred method of payment for Home Care charges is direct debit. If this will cause you problems please tell the person who completes your Fairer Charging assessment.

Reviewing Your Home Care Charge

Your Home Care Charge will be reviewed at least every two years by the Adult Social Care Department. However, should your financial circumstances change you can contact us on 0116 3057514 and we will review your Charge. We may also arrange for you to be visited by a Visiting Assessment Officer and recheck that you are receiving your full benefit entitlement.

If You Think Your Charge is Wrong.....

If you think we have made a mistake in calculating your charge, you should contact the worker who is assisting you or the Fairer Charging Team at

County Hall (Tel: **0116 305 7514**).

If you are having difficulties in affording to pay for your Home Care, you should let us know on **0116 305 7514**.

If required, we will arrange for someone to visit you to see if there is anything further that we can do to help.

If you require information contained in this leaflet in another version e.g. large print, Braille, tape, or an alternative language, please call **0116 305 7404**.

For general enquiries please contact County Hall.

જો આપ આ માહિતી આપની ભાષામાં સમજવામાં થોડી મદદ ઇચ્છતાં હો તો 0116 305 7404 નંબર પર ફોન કરશો અને અમે આપને મદદ કરવા યવસ્થા કરીશું.

નેવર ડ્રગાનું ઇસ જાણકારી નું સમજાવ દિવસ વ્રજ મદદ રાહીદી વૈ ઝાં કિરપા કરવે 0116 305 7404 નંબર કે ફોન કરો અડે અસીં ડ્રગાનું મદદ ઝઈ કિસે ડા પૂર્ષય કર દવાંગે।

এই তথ্য নিজের ভাষায় বুঝার জন্য আপনার যদি কোন সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে 0116 305 7404 এই নম্বরে ফোন করলে আমরা উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তির ব্যবস্থা করবো।

假如閣下需要幫助，用你的語言去明白這些資訊，請致電 0116 305 7404，我們會安排有關人員為你提供幫助。

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tej informacji w Twoim języku, zadzwoń pod numer 0116 305 7404, a my Ci pomożemy.

Phone: 0116 305 7404

Fax: 0116 305 7440

Minicom: 0116 305 7459

or use BT Typetalk

E-mail: AdultSocialCare@leics.gov.uk

Produced in Apr 2009 by Leicestershire County Council Adult Social Care Service, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire LE3 8RL

Home Care Charges

A guide to how the Adult Social Care Service charges for Home Care

April 2009 - April 2010



Promoting independence | changing lives

Home Care Charges:

Leicestershire's Adult Social Care Service applies Government guidance, known as 'Fairer Charging', when assessing charges for Home Care.

You will be assessed on your ability to pay a contribution towards your Home Care service and the assessment will be calculated after taking your individual circumstances into account so that the charges will be affordable. The cost of providing Home Care is subsidised by the Council so you will not be expected to pay the full cost of the service.

The amount you will be charged depends on your income and savings and your expenditure which includes any disability related expenditure. People on very low incomes may find that they will not be expected to pay anything towards their service.

For the financial year 2009/10, charges will range from nothing at all up to a maximum of **£184.00** per week. No one will be expected to pay more than **£8.60** for each hour of Home Care they receive or more than the maximum **£184.00** per week.

Completing the Fairer Charging Assessment

We will help you complete the Fairer Charging assessment, which provides all the information we need. The person who will help you is likely to be either the worker who arranges your Home Care or a Visiting Assessment Officer. Visiting

Assessment Officers complete the assessment on computer and other staff will complete a form. You will be contacted in advance to arrange a convenient time to visit. The worker who arranges your Home Care will tell you more about this.

When completing the assessment we will ask a number of questions about income, benefits, and savings and also about costs you may have as a result of your disability.

It would be extremely helpful to us if you could have the information needed to complete the form ready when we visit.

The information we need includes:

Income

- State Retirement pension
- Occupational pension(s)
- Income Support
- Pension Credit
- Incapacity Benefit
- Carers Allowance
- Attendance Allowance

- Disability Living Allowance
- Any other Income
- Savings and Property (Capital). This may include Bank/Building Society

Accounts; Premium Bonds; National Savings Certificates; Shares and other investments.

Expenditure

- Rent
- Service Charges
- Council Tax
- Mortgage Payments
- Electricity and Gas Payments
- Metered Water
- Insurance
- Medical Costs
- Any other expenditure e.g. cleaners, gardener.

If you have savings over £23,000 (£46,000 for couples) you will be assessed

as being able to pay the maximum charge for your Home Care hours and you

will not need to provide details of your income and expenditure.

Helping You to Claim your Benefits

When we visit you to complete your Fairer Charging form, we will also offer to check that you are claiming your full

benefit entitlement. Many people who get Home Care are not receiving the correct rates of benefit and, in some cases; it is possible to claim additional benefits such as Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit which can increase your weekly income. Leicestershire County Council is committed to ensuring that everyone who uses the Home Care Service is claiming their full benefit entitlement which will enable them to pay for their essential bills and services, including their Home Care bill. We do this by working in partnership with the Pensions Service and other agencies. Assistance with benefit claims will be provided by either a Visiting Assessment Officer, or, if your benefits situation is complex, by a Community Care Benefits Advisor or the Pensions Service.

How is the Home Care Charge Calculated?

If the Visiting Assessment Officer completes the assessment using a computer, we will usually be able to tell you what your maximum charge will be at the visit. You will be given a letter and a breakdown of how the charge has been calculated. If your assessment is complex or a form is completed, the Fairer Charging Team at County Hall will assess the charge and write to you to let you know how much you will be charged. The charge will start from