

Consultation / Engagement & Communication Plan

Title: Proposed changes to the Fairer Contributions Policy for Adult Social Care

Consultation Background

Service users in receipt of social care are financially assessed to determine the contribution towards the cost of their care and support provided by the Council. For non residential based services, the contributions are based on the Council's Fairer Contribution policy. This policy is based on the framework set out in the Care Act 2014.

Proposal

Haringey currently disregards 65% of a disability benefit included as income in the charge calculation for disability related expenditure. On average the disregard in income is £36.17 per week. Our proposal is to reduce this disregard when calculating how much people should contribute to cost of their care at home to bring. This will bring us in line with other Councils by 2019. The proposal is reduce the disregard as follows:

To 55% from TBC - this will reduce the disregard to £30.61 per week

To 45% from April 2018 – this will reduce the disregard to £25.04 per week

To 40% from April 2019 - this will reduce the disregard to £22.26 per week

Target Audience

This consultation will seek to engage the following groups of affected and non-affected

Service users. The strategy will be to engage for consideration and letting people know what could happen and what scope would be for their comment.

- Service users who are currently assessed to contribute towards their care and support costs – 461 people
- Service users who have a standard DRE applied to their financial assessment that are not required to pay a financial contribution to their care and support at present – 700 people
- Service users who are in receipt of care in the community – 718 people

Corporate Plan: Priority Two

Key Officers:

Raj Darbhanga: Team Manager - Income Maximisation & Personal Budget Finance Team

John Everson: Assistant Director – Adult Social Services

Phil Holmes: Project Manager – Adult Transformation Team

Councillor Arthur: Lead Cabinet Member

Consultation Planning

Consultation Activity	Number of Weeks
Produce consultation material	3-4
Organise publicity for consultation	2-3
Distribute questionnaires	2
Register consultation e-form	1 day
Launch of consultation	6
Analysis of both quantitative and qualitative research	2-3
Draft consultation report	1
Draft reviewed by other approval bodies such as SLT and CAB	2
Submit final consultation report to Cabinet	TBC
Total number of weeks to complete consultation process	18-21

Consultation and Engagement Activities

- To provide written consultation for all those in receipt of care in the community. Documentation will include information about the background and proposal to reduce the disability related disregard amounts.
- To design and write an online questionnaire using SNAP for all those in receipt of care in the community.
- To organise and facilitate information and feedback sessions (road shows) for those users who are currently affected.
- To invite and involve partner agencies to any applicable forums or road shows.
- To publish external communications in the form of newsletters and magazine publications.
- To engage the target audience via online social media such as Twitter and Facebook.
- To maximise awareness of the consultation via the council's website and intranet.

Consultation Questionnaire

- Q1.** Do you currently contribute financially to your care and support at the moment?
YES NO
- Q2.** Do you think that you will need to make a contribution in the future based on this proposal?
YES NO UNSURE
- Q3.** To what extent do you agree with the proposed changes in light of the fact that the council needs to make savings and bring in line with other councils? **Need to re-word dependent on the key message**
- Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree
- Q4.** In order to help you accurately calculate what your contribution would be now or in the future, how likely would you request an individual financial assessment?
- Highly likely Likely Unlikely Highly unlikely
- Q5.** To what extent would you be able to financially manage an increase of up to £10 contribution to your care and support?
- Very Manageable Manageable Unmanageable Very Unmanageable
- Q6.** Do you have any support in managing your care and support budget?
YES NO
If yes – who?
- Q7.** What support would you like should these changes be implemented? – Open question
- Q8.** Meals on Wheels question?

Please complete the ethnicity information – Separate Page to be included