

## Respite Policy Consultation

Haringey Council and NHS Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) recognise the significant contribution that carers – whether family members, young carers or parent carers – make to the care of those with a range of needs.

The draft respite policy focuses on what happens when a carer cannot provide care in the short term. This can require respite care to be arranged as an important part of wider support planning for a cared for person who is eligible for social care or health funding.

Although the draft policy does not cover direct support to carers and young carers – whose needs will have been identified through their own care and support plan - the respite care provided directly to the cared for person provides a break, for the carer or young carer, from their caring responsibility.

In this way, many people are able to remain living at home for longer, preventing the need for institutionally based care for as long as possible.

### What is the purpose of the consultation?

We want to know what users of respite care and carers think about our draft respite policy. The reason for this is to see if we should make changes to the policy.

### What is Respite Care?

Respite care is short term care by Paid Carers of adults or children who normally receive care in their own home from informal carers. It is provided when the cared for person is eligible for care services and the carer cannot provide that care, or the cared for person requires a break from their carer.

Like any support, Respite Care should allow flexibility and choice for the cared for person and for carers, so it can take many forms.

Examples of respite care include:

- a. Paid carers coming into the home to deliver the care required
- b. Time taken doing daytime activities to give a break for the carer, for example after school clubs, or day centres/play schemes.
- c. A period in a supported living, residential or nursing care home

It is possible to use a Direct Payment to access respite care or to access respite as a Managed Service organised by the Council or CCG.

### What is being proposed?

The Council and CCG do not currently have a respite policy. We are proposing to have a single Respite Policy across Children and adults and health and social care for Haringey.

The reason for this is to have a consistent approach to respite which provides clarity to carers, service users and staff across care groups.

Whilst respite care is available, there is a lack of consistency around how respite care is access and delivered across service areas.

## Charging for respite care

There is no change to charging for respite funded by adult social care, which is explained in the Council's Fair Contributions Policy:

### "6.12 Respite Care

6.12.1 All respite care up to eight weeks, including a short stay in supported housing, whether commissioned by the council or purchased with a direct payment will be charged under this policy."

This means for anyone who is receiving community care services (non-residential) and who has been financially assessed, the assessment will also apply for up to 8 weeks of their respite care. The financial assessment is based on the circumstances of the cared for person, not the carer.

Here are some examples of how the Fair Contributions Policy applies to respite care for up to 8 weeks:

- If a client has been assessed to pay nil contribution for their community care services then this assessment also applies to their respite care services.
- If a client has been assessed to pay £50 a week for their community care services, then they will still only pay £50 a week for their respite care services.
- If a client has savings over £23,250 and has been assessed to pay the full cost of their community care services then they will also pay the full cost of their respite care services, as a cared for person.

Should respite be required for longer than 8 weeks, then a financial assessment will be completed as the cared for person or client is charged using residential charging rules as set out in the Care Act 2014

Respite care funded by the NHS is not charged for, as these NHS services are free for the people who are eligible for them.

Likewise, respite care for a child is not charged for.

## Respite Care Policy Questionnaire

**Please click the answer that best describes your situation as the cared for person:**

- I am self-funding
- I currently receive **fully funded respite care** through the Council
- I currently receive fully funded respite care through the CCG
- I receive a **direct payment which I use to fund respite care**
- I receive a **direct payment**, however **this is not used to fund respite**
- I do not currently receive any respite care

**Please click the answer that best describes your situation as a carer:**

- **The person I care for is self-funding** or the person I care for does not receive funding from the council or CCG
- The person I care for receives a personal budget **which is used to fund respite care**
- The person I care for currently receives **fully funded respite care** through the council or CCG
- The person I care for receives a personal budget, however, **this is not used to fund respite**

**From Reading the draft respite policy:**

1) Do you agree with the definition of respite care? (See section 7 of the draft policy)

Yes  
No  
Not sure

If not, what do you think is missing or needs to be changed?

2) Do you understand the difference between respite care and other short term care (see section 7 and 10 of the draft policy)

Yes  
No  
Not sure

3) **Do you think the proposed policy will have an impact on you the carer/or your carer's ability to provide care?**

Yes  
No  
Not sure

If yes, how?

**4) How well do you think the future respite pathway will work for you?**

Very well

No change

Not very well

**Comment:**

**5) Do you understand when and how the Council charges for respite care? (see section 12 of the draft policy)**

Yes

No

Not sure

**Comment:**

**6) Is the policy clear and easy to understand?**

Yes

No

Not sure

**Comment:**

**7) Do you have any other comments about the respite policy?**

**Comment:**