

Communities Directorate Fees & Charges Proposals – 2013/14

1. Adult Social Care

- 1.1 Councils have the power to charge for certain social care services, and are required to have a charging policy that is demonstrably fair and does not undermine the overall objectives of social care – that is, to promote both independence and social inclusion of service users. It is recognised that the level of fees and charges can have a direct impact on usage and take up, and in some instances work against the Council's social inclusion agenda by effectively discriminating against those who are less able to pay.
- 1.2 The Council's policy is therefore to charge service users an 'affordable' amount, which is uplifted by inflation each year. However, where other local authorities, or Health organisations, are purchasing Council services on behalf of their service users, the charges made to these organisations are designed to reflect the actual costs of the service.
- 1.3 West Berkshire Council's Fairer Charging Policy for non residential services, introduced in 2003, states the individual will have one assessed charge for all services. All services will be added together before a service user is financially assessed. This principle is retained in the 2012 revision of this policy, WBC Fairer Contribution Policy.
- 1.4 The guidance allows for a prescribed list of allowances, for example, rent, mortgage, council tax, buildings insurance etc. plus disability related costs, for example, community alarm system, extra heating costs that meet an individuals presenting care needs.
- 1.5 These allowances are then deducted from the total income to give an assessable income. Since 2008/9 West Berkshire Council has used 100% of the assessable income as chargeable income in line with most other Councils.
- 1.6 With the move to Personal Budgets for all service users, the actual value of the care package will gradually be introduced in the financial assessment process, as opposed to an hourly or unit amount for any element of care that is still commissioned by West Berkshire Council on behalf of the service user.
From April 2012 any new or reviewed eligible individual requiring support from Adult Social Care will receive this in the form of a Personal Budget through which they can arrange their support. As of 1st April 2011 individuals have been charged for each day they have booked at a Resource Centre and only in exceptional circumstances will charges be waived for non attendance.

1.7 There are generally two types of charges – discretionary and statutory.

DISCRETIONARY CHARGES

1.8 The Council has chosen to increase prices by 2.8% in line with current estimations of RPI.

Home care and Laundry

1.9 No increase is proposed for domiciliary care. WBC Reablement service is provided to those who are assessed by WBC staff as having reablement potential and is up to 6 weeks free. Time period is to be determined by WBC staff.

1.10 The increase proposed for laundry is 20p bringing the total cost to £7.60

1.11 Community support provided to enable service users who require supervision to access community based services and community activity will remain at £17.00.

1.12 Outreach workers based at WBC's Resource Centres will increase from £16.50 to £17.00.

1.13 WBC Reablement service provides a Footcare service which will rise from £15.10 to £15.50 in line with RPI. The first visit charge from Footcare will rise from £26.10 to £26.80 in line with RPI.

Resource Centres and Transport

1.14 WBC provided day opportunities will increase by £1.20 to £43.00 per day. Transport provided by WBC to transport service users to Council Resource centres or West Berkshire MENCAP services will increase by 25p to £7.75.

WBC Resource Centres- Other Local Authorities

1.15 The charge to other local authorities and Health organisations for places in West Berkshire Resource Centres is increasing by 2.8%. The charge is based on an inflationary uplift. The proposed new charges will be:

Physical disability	£91.50
Older People	£60.00
Learning Disability	£98.00

Other Day Centres and Transport

1.16 These will be charged at actual cost.

Statutory Charges

1.17 The method of assessing contributions from clients in long-term residential care is covered by CRAG regulations issued by the Department of Health.

1.18 The charges to full cost payers in WBC Homes for the Elderly, and to other local authorities who access services run by West Berkshire Council, are based on current information in respect of cost and the estimated number of clients using the service. The proposed full standard charge for WBC Homes for the Elderly is to remain at £753.

1.19 The attached appendix gives details of the new charges.

Adult Social Care			
Description	Fees 2012/13	Proposed Fee 2013/14	Notes
Service – All client groups			
Residential care independent sector homes - full cost per week	Actual Cost	Actual Cost	
Home care – maximum hourly rate	£20.00	£20.00	
Laundry Service	£7.40	£7.60	
Meals provided in WBC Resource Centres	£4.50	£4.60	
WBC Resource Centre outreach workers	£16.50	£17.00	
WBC Transport – maximum charge per journey	£7.50	£7.75	
WBC Footcare service regular Appointment	£15.10	£15.50	
WBC Footcare First visit including issue of kit	£26.10	£26.80	

Adult Social Care			
Description	Fees 2012/13	Proposed Fee 2013/14	Notes
Community Support - hourly charge	£17.00	£17.00	
External day activities	Actual cost	Actual cost	
WBC Resource Centres – charge to other LAs/PCTs			
- Older People	£58.50	£60.00	
- LD	£95.00	£98.00	
- PD	£89.00	£91.50	
Charges to any organisation using WBC Resource Centres; Greenfields, Hungerford, Phoenix, Walnut Close	Actual Cost	Actual Cost	
WBC Resource Centres - charge per day	£41.80	£43.00	
Service – Older People			
Residential care WBC Homes – full cost per week	£753.00	£753	
Residential care WBC Homes – charge the assessed contribution whilst in hospital if bed is being retained at the home	Assessed charge	Assessed charge	
Residential care WBC Homes – charge the assessed contribution from date of admission even if client subsequently decides to leave the home during review period.	Assessed charge from date of admission	Assessed charge from date of admission	

Service -Learning Disabilities			
Transporting clients from care homes to resource centre (charge to provider)	At cost	At cost	
Adult Placement – management fee	£79.00	£81	

Appendix A

Appendix Ia

WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL – ADULT SOCIAL CARE RESOURCE CENTRE RENTAL CHARGES – 2012/13

Walnut Close Day Opportunities at Walnut Close Resource Centre, Thatcham			
Room	Daily Rate	Half Day Rate	Hourly Rate
Main Activity Room	£82.00	£41.00	14.00
Hungerford Resource Centre, Hungerford			

Phoenix Resource Centre, Newbury			
Room	Daily Rate	Half Day Rate	Hourly Rate
Woodwork Room	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Car Washing Facility	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Theatre Fully Functioning	£103.00	£51.00	£18.50
Theatre set out as a conference room	£82.00	£41.00	£14.00
Theatre space only	£62.00	£31.00	£10.00
Frailty and Dementia Suite	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Physical Disability Suite	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Sensory Cooking Room	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Sensory Room	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Optimusic Room	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Snackbar and Dining Room	£62.00	£31.00	£10.00
Speaking Up Room	£20.50	£10.00	£4.00
Craft Circle Room	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Computer Suite	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Ex CTPLD Office Space -Whole	£82.00	£41.00	£14.00
Ex CTPLD Office Space Divided, Per Room	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Old Managers Office	£62.00	£31.00	£10.00
Art Room	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Meeting Room	£26.00	£13.00	£5.00

Main Activity Room	£82.00	£41.00	£14.00
Computer Suite	£41.00	£20.50	£7.00
Quiet Room	£20.50	£10.00	£4.00
Hairdressing Salon	£20.50	£10.00	£4.00
Upstairs Room 1	£41.00	£20.50	£4.00
Upstairs Room 2	£41.00	£20.50	£4.00

2. Children and Young People

2.1 The Children & Young People's half of the directorate has two areas of income generation. The majority of income (non buy back) generated relates to Home to School Transport and the Youth Service. An increase to fees and charges has not been applied to the base budget for the Youth Service in 13 -14 due to economic factors impacting on the services ability to generate income in financial years 11-12 and 12-13. Also the Youth Service in line with Council priorities has moved away from universal youth provision toward more targeted work which does not have the capacity to generate significant income.

However it is noted that:

- Fees and charges can have a direct impact on usage and take up.
- In some circumstances the Council is providing services in direct competition to the private sector. Where this is the case, price is likely to have a direct link with demand and it is important that the Council does not 'price itself out of the market';
- Raising fees and charges can in some instances work against the Council's social inclusion agenda by effectively discriminating against those who are less able to pay;
- Some income generating activities are subject to contractual arrangements where the actual levels of charges are set by the contractor, taking into account market factors and the parameters agreed with the Council to meet its social inclusion agenda. In these cases, marginal increases in fees and charges (within Council parameters) are retained by the contractor and therefore do not have a direct impact on council budgets.

Education Services - Home to School Transport

2.2 The Fare Paying Scheme, is now a graded fare charging system based on radial distance, this policy was implemented in 2010 -11 approved by Executive.

Summary of Fees and Charges - Home to School Transport 2013/14			
	Fees 2012/2013		Proposed Fees 2013/2014
Current banding	Per Year	New banding	Per Year
Band A - Up to 3 Miles	£199	Band A - Up to 2 Miles	£210
Band B - Up to 6 Miles	£398	Band B - 2 - 6 Miles	£420
Band C - over 6 miles	£763	Band C - over 6 miles	£785

Children's Services - Youth Service

2.3 Youth Officers have set fees and charges across all the centres to ensure compatibility. This includes size of venue, and resources available. The fees and charges for 13-14 reflect small decreases on those applied in 12-13. The decreases are due to the economic downturn impacting on demand levels for universal youth services. By reducing costs the intention is to generate increased demand.

The detailed proposals for fee decreases are as follows;

Summary of Fees and Charges - Children and Young People 2013/14				
Description	Current Fee			
Centre:		Moorside Centre	John of Gaunt Community Centre	Waterside Centre
Youth and Community Centres - Facility hire to Voluntary and Community Groups				
Meeting Room	£7.85	No longer available		No longer available
Small Hall / Theatre	£13.45	£13:25		£13:30
Large Hall / Gymnasium	£18.45	£18:00	£8.85 ph excl Ins £9.90 ph Incl Ins	£18:00
Kitchen & coffee Bar	£11.20	£11:00 +£5:30 for kitchen per booking		£11:00 + £10 per booking for kitchen
Outside Courts/ Play Areas		£19:00 and £29:95 with lights	£5.00 ph	N/A
Stage / Lighting / Sound Additional Charge dependent upon individual requirements		On application		On application
Youth and Community Centres - Private Hire				
Meeting Room	£7.85			
Small Hall / Theatre	£13.45			
Large Hall / Gymnasium	£18.35		£16.50 ph excl Ins £18.55 ph Incl Ins	
Kitchen & coffee Bar	£11.20			
Outside Courts/ Play Areas			n/a	

Stage / Lighting / Sound Additional Charge dependent upon individual requirements			On application	
Youth and Community Centres - Facility hire to Commercial Organisations				
Meeting Room	£13.40	N/A		N/A
Small Hall / Theatre	£20.30	£19:90		£19:90
Large Hall / Gymnasium	£28.00	£27:50		£27:50
Kitchen & coffee Bar	£16.90	£16:60 + £5:30 per booking for kitchen		£16:60 + £10 per booking for kitchen
Outside Courts/ Play Areas		£19:00/with lights £29:95		
Stage / Lighting / Sound Additional Charge dependent upon individual requirements				
Youth and Community Centres - Evening Parties/Weddings				
Meeting Room	£13.40	As for commercial hire		
Small Hall / Theatre	£20.30	As for commercial hire		
Large Hall / Gymnasium	£28.00	As for commercial hire		
Kitchen & coffee Bar	£16.90	As for commercial hire		
Stage / Lighting / Sound Additional Charge dependent upon individual requirements				

Activity programme for Young People				
Annual Youth Club Membership varies according to Nature of Club				
Basic Sessional Charge	£0.60	£0.60		n/a
Instructional Session	£1.00	N/A		N/A
6 week evening course in Adventurous Activity	£37.75			