

## SUNDERLAND CITY COUNCIL

### CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Contributions Policy has been designed to comply with the Care Act 2014, which provides a legal framework for charging for Adult Social Care.

- Section 14 of the Care Act provides Local Authorities with the power to ask adults to make a contribution for the cost of their social care.
- Section 17 of the Care Act allows Local Authorities to carry out a financial assessment to determine the amount a customer can afford to contribute towards the care services they receive.

1.2 The policy has been designed in line with Care and Support Regulation (Statutory Instruments) and Care and Support Guidance and Annexes issued under the Care Act 2014.

1.3 This updated policy is effective from **1 April 2020**.

#### 2 PRINCIPLES

2.1 The key principles of the policy are as follows:

- The personalisation of services and contributions;
- Fairness for all customers;
- The promotion of social inclusion and independence;
- The calculation of contributions in a timely, efficient manner;
- Calculations of contributions based on an ability to pay;
- Calculations of contributions that are clear and easy to understand;
- Contributions will not exceed the cost of providing the service, and they will not include any administrative costs relating to the calculation or collection of the contribution;
- Compliance with the Care Act and related regulations / guidance;
- Welfare benefits advice and assistance offered to all with the aim of maximising their income;
- Commitment to Equal Opportunities through ensuring that no one is treated less favourably on the grounds of race, ethnicity, religion, marital status, disability, marital status, gender, sexuality or sexual orientation.

#### 3 SERVICES COVERED BY THE POLICY

3.1 Sunderland's Contributions Policy covers all adults social care services, whether these are provided through a non-residential personal budget, or in a residential care setting.

3.2 This can include:

- Permanent placement in Residential or Nursing Care;
- Direct Payments – and the range of services that can be purchased with them;
- Services managed and provided through the Council, including:

- Home Care;
- Day Care;
- Short Break or respite care in Residential or Nursing Care;
- Companionship;
- Shared Lives;
- Supported Living

3.3 The list of services provided in 3.2 is not exhaustive – personalisation offers customers the opportunity to develop their own flexible support plan to meet their own individual needs.

#### **4 EXEMPTIONS TO THE POLICY**

4.1 The policy will apply to all recipients of social care except where:

- Aftercare services are provided under Section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983;
- The recipient is a sufferer of Creutzfeldt Jacobs Disease;
- The support is provided as a Reablement Service and is for a period of 6 weeks or less.
- The service comprises the provision of an aid (i.e. equipment) or is an adaption to property that costs £1000 or less.

#### **5 FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT**

5.1 The financial assessment will be carried out, where possible, in advance of the provision of services.

5.2 The Financial Assessment will assess the customer’s ability to pay, covering:

- Income;
- Capital;
- Allowable Housing Costs.

5.3 For those provided with care and support at home or in the community and who are in receipt of a disability benefit such as Attendance Allowance (‘AA’), Disability Living Allowance (‘DLA’) or Personal Independence Payment(‘PIP’), the financial assessment will also consider:

- Disability Related Expenditure (‘DRE’) which can be costs incurred specifically to help meet a person’s disability in question. DRE is deducted from income in accordance with Appendix 1 to this policy – see below for full details.
- Any additional costs not covered in Appendix 1 can be requested through a separate ‘review process’, however full evidence will be required to support the request.

#### **6 TREATMENT OF INCOME**

6.1 Most forms of income (including most benefits) are taken into account. The following list contains the main income types that are taken into account; however this list is not exhaustive;

- AA– see 6.2;
- DLA Care Component – see 6.2;
- PIP Daily Living Component;
- Carers Allowance;
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance;
- Pension Credit;

- State Retirement Pension;
- Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit;
- Occupational (works) Pensions;
- Working Tax Credit (except for non-residential cases where it is fully disregarded);
- 'Tariff income' – see 7.3
- Universal Credit (less Payments made for housing costs)

6.2 AA and DLA Care will be assessed as follows:

- For those who are provided with care and support at home or in the community, the difference between the lower and higher rates of AA and the middle and higher rates of DLA Care Component will be disregarded unless services are provided at night time or if someone has access to 24 hour care in an Extra Care Scheme or Supported Accommodation, in which case the full rate will be taken into account;
- For those in Residential or Nursing Care it is included in full however, the benefit will cease after 4 weeks unless the customer is funding their own placement.

6.3 There are some income types that are fully disregarded – these are as follows:

- Earnings;
- Child Tax Credit;
- Child Benefit (except in circumstances where the adult is accompanied by the child for whom Child Benefit is paid, and accommodation is provided for that child under the Care Act);
- Pension Savings Credit for those provided care and support at home or in the community (See 6.4 for treatment in a residential care setting);
- DLA Mobility Component;
- PIP Mobility Component;
- War Disablement Pension;
- War Pensioners Mobility Supplement;
- War Widows Special Pre 1973 Supplementary Pension;
- Guaranteed Income Payments made under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme to disabled ex-service personnel;
- Charitable or Voluntary Payments;
- Fostering Allowance;
- New Deal payments linked to work based activity;
- Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance;
- Education Maintenance Allowance.

6.4 There are some income types that are partially disregarded – these are:

- The first £10 of the first £10 per week of War Widows and War Widowers pension, survivors Guaranteed Income Payments from the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, Civilian War Injury pension, any War Disablement pension paid to non-veterans and payments to victims of National Socialist persecution (paid under German or Austrian law)
- For those living in a residential care setting, the full amount of Pension Savings Credit should be taken into account less a savings disregard based on qualifying income which is made to people as follows:

**Additionally, for individuals:**

- where a person is in receipt of qualifying income of less than £133.82 per week there will be no Savings Disregard made
- where a person is in receipt of qualifying income between £133.82 and £155.60 per week the savings disregard is made, which will equal the actual amount of the savings credit received or a sum of £5.75 whichever is less

- where a person is in receipt of qualifying income in excess of £155.60 per week, and a savings credit reward is in payment, a flat rate savings disregard of £5.75 per week is made irrespective of how much the savings credit payment is
- where a person has qualifying income above the limit for receiving a savings credit reward (around £190.00 but could be higher if the person is severely disabled, has caring responsibilities or certain housing costs) a flat rate savings disregard of £5.75 is made

**For couples:**

- where a person is part of a couple (including a civil partnership) and is in receipt of qualifying income of less than £212.97 per week there will be no savings disregard made
- where a person who is part of a couple (including a civil partnership) and is in receipt of qualifying income between £212.97 and £237.55 per week the savings disregard is made, which will equal the actual amount of the savings credit received or a sum of £8.60 whichever is less
- where a person who is part of a couple (including a civil partnership) and is in receipt of qualifying income in excess of £237.55 per week, and a savings credit reward is in payment, a flat rate savings disregard of £8.60 per week is made irrespective of how much the savings credit payment is
- where a person who is part of a couple (including a civil partnership) and has qualifying income above the limit for receiving savings credit (around £278.00 but could be higher if the person is severely disabled, has caring responsibilities or certain housing costs) a flat rate savings disregard of £8.60 is made

## **7 TREATMENT OF CAPITAL**

7.1 Most forms of capital are taken into account. The following list contains the main capital types that are taken into account; however this list is not exhaustive:

- Bank / Building Society Balances;
- Stocks and Shares;
- Premium Bonds;
- National Savings Certificates;
- Income from any Trust Funds (except for any personal injury funds administered by the High Court, the County Court or the Court of Protection, which income is disregarded);
- The value of the customer's interest in a property that is not their main or only home.

7.2 A customer whose capital exceeds the upper capital limit – currently £23,250 (or £46,500 for a couple) – will be assessed as able to pay in full for the service provided, as will a customer who fails to provide full details of their income and capital.

7.3 A customer who has capital between the upper and lower capital limit – currently £14,250 (or £28,500 for a couple) – will be assessed as having 'tariff income' of £1 per week for every £250 they have between the upper and lower capital limits.

## **8 TREATMENT OF PROPERTY**

8.1 The value of a customer's interest in their main or only home must be disregarded where:

- They are not in a care home;
- They are in a care home but the stay is temporary and either intend to return to their home or they are selling it in order to buy a more suitable home;
- They are in a care home but their home is occupied wholly or in part by a 'qualifying relative' (as defined – see 8.2), as their main or only home provided they have occupying it continuously since before the customer went into the care home.

8.2 A 'qualifying relative' is:

- The customer's partner, former partner or civil partner, except where they are estranged;
- A lone parent who is the customer's estranged or divorced partner;
- A relative defined in 8.3 who is either aged 60 or over, or is a child of the customer or is incapacitated.

8.3 A relative in relation to a customer is a:

- Parent (including an adoptive parent), or their partner;
- Parent-in-law, or their partner;
- Son (including an adoptive son), or their partner;
- Son-in-law, or their partner;
- Daughter (including an adoptive daughter), or their partner;
- Daughter-in-law, or their partner;
- Step-parent;
- Step-son;
- Step-daughter;
- Brother;
- Sister;
- Grandparent;
- Grandchild;
- Uncle;
- Aunt;
- Nephew;
- Niece.

8.4 The Council has discretion to further disregard a property for those in a care home in the following circumstance:

- A relative, as described in 8.3, has resided in the property for over 5 years, but is not incapacitated, over 60 years old or under 18 years old. The property will be disregarded for as long as the person resides there.

8.5 If a property is taken into account in the financial assessment and the customer does not wish to sell their property or does not have access to funds, they can ask the Council for a Deferred Payment. This allows them to defer or delay their care costs and repay them when the property sells or the customer dies (Details of the scheme can be found in the Deferred Payments Scheme).

## **9 DEPRIVATION OF ASSETS – CAPITAL, PROPERTY OR INCOME**

9.1 Where the Council is satisfied that a customer has deprived themselves of capital, i.e. an asset, in order to avoid paying in full or in part for their care, they will be assessed as though they still own that asset. This could result in them being found to have capital in excess of the upper limit and so have to pay in full for their care.

9.2 The asset could be a property or savings or any other form of capital that has, for example, been given or otherwise transferred to another person or placed into trust.

9.3 Where the Council is satisfied that a customer has intentionally deprived themselves of income (this being income that would be available on application, but has not been applied for) in order to avoid paying in full or in part for their care, they will be assessed as though they are in receipt of that income. This could result in them being found to have sufficient income to pay in full for their care.

9.4 In deciding whether there has been deprivation, the Council will take into account in particular if the customer was in receipt of services at the time or, if not, that they must have anticipated they would need services.

## 10 ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURE

10.1 For those customers in Residential Care, the Council does not take into account as income a Personal Expenses Allowance ('PEA') of £24.90 a week (and if they have entered into a Deferred Payment Agreement this can be up to £144 a week).

10.2 For those customers who are provided with care and support at home or in the community, the Council does not take into account, as income, a personal allowance that is equal to the Department of Health's Minimum Income Guarantee rates released each year based on age, disability and responsibility for children. The figures in the table below represent these rates i.e. they are the personal allowances.

Single Person	
£131.75	Single person under pensionable age in receipt of a qualifying disability benefit
£132.45	Single person under 25 in receipt of the highest rate of either DLA Care Component or PIP Daily Living Component
£151.45	Single person under pensionable age in receipt of the highest rate of either DLA Care Component or PIP Daily Living Component
£189.00	Single person over pensionable age
Couple	
£172.35	Couple under pensionable age where only one is in receipt of a qualifying disability benefit
£186.50	Couple under pensionable age where only one is in receipt of a qualifying benefit and they are in receipt of the highest rate of either DLA Care Component or PIP Daily Living Component
£201.10	Couple under pensionable age where both are in receipt of a qualifying disability benefit
£215.25	Couple under pensionable age where only one is in receipt of the highest rate of either DLA Care Component or PIP Daily Living Component
£229.40	Couple under pensionable age where both are in receipt of the highest rate of either DLA Care Component or PIP Daily Living Component
£288.60	Couple over pensionable age

10.3 Also for those customers who are provided with care and support at home or in the community, housing related costs can be disregarded in the calculation. These costs are:

- Mortgage repayments
- Rent and ground rent;
- Council Tax
- Service charges (but note that some are not disregarded)

10.4 For customers in residential care these costs are disregarded for 6 weeks while a decision is made as to whether they will remain in the home on a permanent basis.

10.5 For customers who are provided with care and support at home or in the community,

## 11 CONTRIBUTION CALCULATION

11.1 Once the financial assessment has been carried out in accordance with the sections described above, the Council will make a decision about how much they must pay for their care and support. The information detailed in sections 6 – 11 is gathered for each customer.

11.2 Where a customer has capital above the upper limit (see 7.2), they must pay in full for their care and support.

- 11.3 Where a customer has capital below the upper limit (see 7.2), the Council will carry out this calculation:
- Total of all income, including 'tariff income' from capital between the upper and lower limits (See 7.3);
  - Less any disregarded income;
  - Less their Personal Expenses Allowance or personal allowance;
  - Less any agreed DRE (if applicable);
  - Equals the assessed maximum contribution.
- 11.4 The maximum contribution a customer will be assessed to pay is the full cost to the Council of their care and support (which does not include any contribution from the NHS).

## **12 NOTIFICATION OF CONTRIBUTION**

- 12.1 Once the financial assessment process is complete, the customer will be notified, in writing, of their assessed maximum personal weekly contribution by the Council's Social Care Financial Assessment Team. The customer will also be informed of the actual weekly contribution by the team when services have been agreed and authorised by the Adult Social Care Team.
- 12.2 The customer will also be informed that their maximum personal annual contribution will be collected and used towards meeting the cost of their care before the Council makes any financial contribution but they will never pay more personal contribution than the cost of the care they receive.

## **13 PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTION**

- 13.1 Payment of contribution by the customer will commence from the date that service commences. For those in residential or nursing care, this is the date of admission.
- 13.2 For those customers in residential or nursing care, payment is to be made direct to the care home provider.
- 13.3 For those being provided with care and support at home or in the community, payment is to be made as follows:
- Customers who receive direct payments in order to pay for their care and support will receive their payment net of any contribution they are required to make.
  - Customers who receive services managed or provided by the Council will receive an invoice confirming the amount they are required to pay on an annual basis, which can be paid in manageable instalments.

## **14 RECONCILIATION OF PAYMENTS (CUSTOMER'S PROVIDED WITH CARE AND SUPPORT IN OWN HOME OR IN THE COMMUNITY)**

- 14.1 Where a customer is required to make a financial contribution towards the cost of their care and this care ends, a reconciliation process will be undertaken. The reconciliation process will compare the cost of the services the client has received to the amount of their personal annual contribution that has been paid at that point in time.
- 14.2 If the reconciliation process confirms that the customer has paid more personal annual contribution than the cost of the services they have received they may receive a refund.
- 14.3 If the reconciliation process confirms that the amount of personal annual contribution paid by the client at that point is less than the cost of the services they have received the customer will be expected pay the difference, up to their maximum personal annual contribution.

## **15 REVIEW OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

- 15.1 Each customer's contribution will be reviewed annually or sooner if their circumstances change.

## **16 REVIEW / APPEAL**

- 16.1 If a customer considers their financial assessment is incorrect or that they cannot afford to pay the assessed contribution they can ask for this decision to be reviewed and the outcome will be determined by a Senior Manager in the Social Care Financial Assessment Management Team. This can happen following the initial financial assessment or following a review, whether an annual review or because of a change of circumstances.
- 16.2 If the customer is unhappy with the outcome of the review, the customer can request an appeal against this decision. The outcome of the appeal will be determined by an Adult Social Care Senior Manager in the Council.



## APPENDIX ONE – DISABILITY RELATED EXPENDITURE

Expenditure Items	
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Travel &amp; Transport</b></p> <p>This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure where journeys made are for medical reasons, are evidenced in the care plan or assessment document or for some other substantive reason.</p> <p>The expenditure will not be allowed in full where these transport needs can be met by alternative and/or cheaper methods, if these are appropriate to the customer's circumstances.</p> <p>Any allowance that would otherwise be made will also be reduced by the amount of Disability Living Allowance Mobility Component in payment, or other travel concessions.</p> <p>Evidence of expenditure before this allowance can be awarded may include receipts for taxi journeys or proof of other expenses incurred.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Laundry</b></p> <p>This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure where the care plan or assessment document has identified an incontinence issue or other disability that would result in substantial laundry needs.</p> <p>The council defines substantial laundry needs as more than 4 loads per individual per week. Where laundry needs are more than 4 loads per week the council will allow a standard <b>£3.91</b> per week This allowance includes the majority of the costs associated washing, including the cost of specialist washing powder.</p> <p>If the customer qualifies for this allowance the council will also consider allowing the cost of replacement bedding. Any additional allowance for bedding will be based on reasonable expenditure incurred over and above what can be considered as normal replacement expenditure.</p> <p>Evidence of the need for the laundry allowance should be contained within the care plan or assessment document but if not, the council has the discretion to allow it where supportive medical evidence can be provided. The laundry allowance is then automatic, and the customer only needs to provide proof of expenditure for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedding in excess of <b>£55.87</b> per annum</li> <li>• Or where they think that the <b>£3.91</b> does not cover the cost of their additional laundry needs</li> </ul>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Special dietary needs</b></p> <p>Any allowance for this type of expenditure can only be made if supported by medical evidence or where it is identifiable from the customers care plan or assessment documents.</p> <p>Expenditure incurred for special dietary needs is discretionary as the cost may not exceed normal expenditure in this area.</p> <p>The cost of freezer meals/pre- prepared convenience meals will not normally be allowed as these equate to everyday living costs and are not therefore an exceptional expense, even if required due to a customer's specific disability.</p> <p>Evidence required before this allowance can be awarded can consist of proof of the specialist items purchased and the expenditure incurred. This can be compared to the prices of similar non-specialist items and the excess only allowed.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Privately Arranged Care</b></p> <p>This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure where the need for additional private care has identified and evidenced in the customer's care plan, assessment documents or is either in place already or is to be arranged following the needs assessment that could not be covered out of the customer's Personal Budget.</p> <p>The care provided should normally be from a private agency/alternate provider and details of expenditure incurred should be provided before it can be allowed. This may take the form of receipts or letters from the care provider.</p> <p>Any privately arranged care will be split into:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic Care (Allow no more than 1 or 2 hours where in relation to an assessed need)</li> <li>• Personal Care (Allow where it is in relation to an assessed need and where all payments are evidenced)</li> </ul> <p>The council also will not normally allow as expenditure under this heading, monies paid to family and / or friends. Instead the council will provide the family or friend with their own individual carer's assessment (if this has not already been completed) and if they live within the Sunderland City Council area.</p> <p>Should any customer consider that this policy is restrictive and does not recognise their exceptional circumstances, they or the family/friend will be invited to write in with full details of what these payments cover, how long they have been paid and any additional information that they consider to be helpful.</p> <p>A more senior council officer will then consider whether the circumstances outlined may make it appropriate to exercise a greater degree of discretion that would otherwise be allowed under this policy.</p>
5.	<p><b>Clothing</b></p> <p>This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure where the care plan or assessment document indicates that the customer's illnesses/disabilities mean that it would be reasonable for additional clothing costs to be incurred.</p> <p>Examples could include where clothing is subject to abnormal wear and tear, needs specially making or needs replacing frequently due to rapid weight gain or loss.</p> <p>In such cases acceptable proof of expenditure on these items will need to be provided and where necessary the allowance will be offset against what the council considers to be normal levels of expenditure, drawn from various sources.</p>
6.	<p><b>Garden Maintenance</b></p> <p>This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure providing that the need for garden maintenance is due to the customer's disability and not because of their "lifestyle choice".</p> <p>Proof of actual expenditure incurred will be needed before any allowance can be awarded.</p> <p>In all cases the expenditure on gardening will be averaged out across the full year.</p>
7.	<p><b>Equipment</b></p> <p>No allowance will normally be made for equipment. Customers assessed needs in this area may be met by the council and partner agencies and are usually provided free of charge.</p> <p>If customers choose to purchase equipment of a higher specification than they have been assessed as needing by the Council / NHS, then that will be considered to be their lifestyle choice and cannot therefore be allowed by the visiting officer.</p> <p>If equipment has been purchased privately <b>they</b> will be invited to write in with full details of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What these items were</li> <li>• Why they are / were required</li> <li>• When and how they were purchased, together with proof of purchase</li> <li>• What balance remains outstanding?</li> </ul> <p>A more senior council officer will then consider whether the circumstances described allow for a greater degree of discretion than would otherwise be allowed under the policy.</p>
8.	<p><b>Water</b></p> <p>This expenditure will not be considered as disability related expenditure unless the water supply is metered and paid for accordingly.</p> <p>Where the water is metered the annual bill must be provided and exceed the average water bill for similar usage and people living in the property as shown below.</p> <p>The identified needs giving rise to this expenditure type should be identified from the care plan, assessment document or other recognised source.</p>

Where a DRE allowance has already been made for Laundry the identified needs that would result in an allowance for water being made should be different.

**Average Water Usage (Annual Costs)**

User Type	No. of people living in the property				
	1	2	3	4	5+
Low user • Prefer showers to baths • Few/no baths • Infrequent/no use of washing machine • Do not water garden	£184	£239	£277	£322	£359
Average user • Frequent showers/few baths • Regular use of washing machine • No dishwasher • No hosepipe	£213	£277	£333	£388	£425
Above average user • Frequent baths/showers • Regular use of washing machine • Occasional use of dishwasher • Occasional use of hosepipe	£242	£325	£388	£455	£510
High user • Frequent baths • Heavy use of washing machine • Heavy use of dishwasher • Extensive use of sprinkler/hosepipe	£367	£449	£508	£577	£633

N.B. Figures taken from Northumbrian Water's 'Calculating your water use and what it may cost' leaflet/website (<https://www.nwl.co.uk/your-home/your-account/considering-a-water-meter.aspx>)

**9. Medication**

This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure where the items required are not provided free.

The medication must be required because of the customer's recognised disability /illnesses and acceptable proof of expenditure provided, in the form of receipts, copies of repeat prescriptions or other similar details.

The amount that can be allowed where the item is on prescription but not free is the lower of the following 2 amounts:

- The cost of an annual season ticket apportioned over the year
- The cost of actual prescriptions

The visiting officer also has some discretion to allow costs where small items of medication are purchased without prescription (for example paracetamol /other painkillers or indigestion remedies). Evidence of expenditure will be required.

**10. Holidays**

This expenditure will not be allowed as disability related expenditure.

11.	<p><b>Heating/Fuel Costs</b></p> <p>This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure.</p> <p>Any allowance will be based on the rates shown below. These are based on average heating costs for properties in the geographic area and are amended annually based on the updated RPI Fuel Index figures published by the National Statistics Office.</p> <p>If a customer spends more on fuel (due to their disability) than the relevant threshold amount the council will take this additional expenditure into account providing proof of expenditure incurred can be provided. This proof will normally take the form of the last 4 quarters fuel bills, but the council may choose to exercise its discretion and allow expenditure based on acceptable proof of payment Instalment plans.</p> <p><b>Fuel costs</b></p> <p>Any amount of household fuel costs over and above that of the rates identified below for relevant accommodation type.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="240 701 1380 963"> <thead> <tr> <th>Accommodation type</th> <th>Annual Cost</th> <th>Monthly cost</th> <th>Weekly cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Single people in flats and terraced housing</td> <td>£1,389.85</td> <td>£115.82</td> <td>£26.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Couples in flats and terraced housing</td> <td>£1,831.81</td> <td>£152.65</td> <td>£35.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single people in semi-detached housing</td> <td>£1,476.22</td> <td>£123.02</td> <td>£28.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Couples in semi-detached housing</td> <td>£1,943.99</td> <td>£162.00</td> <td>£37.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single people in detached housing</td> <td>£1,794.81</td> <td>£149.57</td> <td>£34.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Couples in detached housing</td> <td>£2,365.77</td> <td>£197.15</td> <td>£45.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Accommodation type	Annual Cost	Monthly cost	Weekly cost	Single people in flats and terraced housing	£1,389.85	£115.82	£26.73	Couples in flats and terraced housing	£1,831.81	£152.65	£35.23	Single people in semi-detached housing	£1,476.22	£123.02	£28.39	Couples in semi-detached housing	£1,943.99	£162.00	£37.38	Single people in detached housing	£1,794.81	£149.57	£34.52	Couples in detached housing	£2,365.77	£197.15	£45.50
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12	<p><b>Telecare</b></p> <p>This expenditure may be allowed as disability related expenditure <u>only</u> where the social worker / care manager has identified the service as an assessed care need and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the customer cannot use any of their personal budget to pay for the Telecare</li> <li>or the social worker / care manager cannot increase the customer's personal budget to cover this cost</li> </ul> <p>In these circumstances the actual costs will be considered.</p>																												
13.	<p><b>Funeral Plans</b></p> <p>Funeral Plans are only allowable if they were taken out and paid in full prior to having a care need and / or receiving chargeable non-residential / residential services. This includes whether it has been paid for privately or with the assistance of local authority funding.</p> <p>Funeral Plans taken out after the start of chargeable non-residential / residential services, will not be allowed as an expense. Under these circumstances the customer is expected to fund the cost of the Funeral Plan from savings or capital below the lower capital limit</p>																												
14.	<p><b>Other/Miscellaneous</b></p> <p>The above list cannot hope to cover all the items that can potentially be classed as a Disability Related Expenses. The list however includes all the items that the visiting officer can authorise without referring the matter to a more senior council officer.</p> <p>The Department of Health's Care Act Guidance recognises that customers may consider other expenditure not covered by council schemes to be related to their own disabilities and gives councils some discretion in this area.</p> <p>Therefore, the council invites customers who think that their disability related expenses are not taken into account by the above table to write in and provide further details of these expenses, proof of expenditure and why they need to be incurred.</p> <p>Should such information be received a more senior council officer will review the evidence and any recommendations and notify the customer if these expenses will be allowed in accordance with the outlined Review Procedure.</p>																												