

	Agreed charges 2016/17			Proposed charges 2017/18				Basis for charging
	Basic	VAT	Total	Basic	VAT	Total	Change %	
	£	£	£					
<p><u>Care & Support (Charging and Assessment of Resources) Regulations 2014</u></p> <p>The Care Act will introduce a single legal framework for charging for care and support (section 14-17), including discretion as to whether or not to charge. Where a local authority arranges care and support to meet a service users needs, it may charge the adult, except where the local authority is required to arrange care and support free of charge.</p> <p>The principle is that service users should only be required to pay what they can afford. Regulations determine the maximum amount a local authority can charge.</p> <p>Only in care homes, where the financial assessment identifies that a service users resources exceed the capital limits, is the local authority precluded from paying towards the costs of care.</p> <p>The upper financial limit is current set at £23,250. Below this level a person can seek means-tested support from the local authority. Where a person's resources are below the lower capital limit of £14,250 they will not need to contribute to the cost of their care and support from their capital. The Council applies a 'tariff' or graduated scale to reflect income received on capital and assets held between the upper and lower limits. These limits are set by the Department for Work and Pensions and the Council will be notified ahead of the 1st April 2017 should these change.</p> <p>Further reforms to the Adult Social Care system are expected to cap the amount some service users will pay towards their cost of care have been postponed until at least April 2020.</p> <p>The Council's Fairer Contributions Policy (to be updated post Care Act introduction from April 2015) sets out the policy. This policy requires that all service users who are eligible to receive chargeable services (except Meals on Wheels) are required to go through a financial assessment process to determine their ability to pay.</p>								
								<p>Statutory prescribed - legislation provides that the local authority charge for providing a service and either (a) the charge is prescribed (i.e set eg. £100 or (b) the range is prescribed.</p> <p>Statutory discretionary (or statutory costs recovery) - legislation provides that you may charge for providing a service but the amount of the charge is discretionary, within the remit of the legislation – the charge may be limited to cost recovery, reasonable cost or based on consideration of prescribed matters eg. consideration of rental value of land for allotments.</p> <p>Discretionary – here the authority is not obliged to provide the service but if it does so then the charges must be based on costs recovery, based on the statutory power to charge in Local Government Act 2003/Localism Act 2011</p>