

Important information regarding Adult Social Care charges during and post COVID-19 outbreak

Services provided during COVID-19 outbreak

As a result of the COVID-19 outbreak you may receive one of the following care services:

- A new care service provided in your own home
- An increase to the existing care service provided in your own home.
- A new care home placement.

The services will be provided following a social care assessment which will be carried out by a social worker. There will be no charge to pay during this period as services will be funded by NHS England.

Post COVID-19 outbreak

You will be informed when services provided during the COVID-19 outbreak will end by a Health or Social care professional, and your services will be transferred over to Adult Social Care funding.

After this date there will continue to be no charge for any services provided:

- Under Section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983
- Care provided in an intermediate or transitional care bed.

If you continue to receive other care services either in your home or in a long term care home placement then these will be subject to a financial assessment, to determine if and how much you will have to pay towards your ongoing care. You could pay up to the actual cost of the care that you receive. Any charge will be back-dated to the start date of Adult Social Care funding.

The amount you will pay will depend on your individual circumstances. You will also have a social care re-assessment to confirm that you still require the level of care and that it is appropriate to meet your needs.

If your stay in a care home is long term then following the financial assessment you will have to pay most of your income towards your placement, however, you will be left with at least £24.90 per week after your charge has been calculated, this is for any personal expenses you have. Sefton Council will pay up to a standard market rate, if your care home has fees higher than the standard market rate, then a third party such as a relative, friend or another organisation can agree to pay the difference. This is sometimes called a “top up” or a “third party contribution” and is in addition to your weekly charge.

If your stay in a care home is short term then you will not be financially assessed, instead you will pay a fixed rate weekly charge, as follows:

	2020-21
Pension age and over	£109.35
Age 25yrs – pension age	£84.40
Age 18 - 24yrs	£68.95

If your capital is more than £23,250 or you do not want to or refuse to disclose your financial information, then you will be liable for the full cost of your services.

State Benefits

Please note that any stay in a care home funded by NHS England or Adult Social Care could affect some of your benefits. You should seek advice from the DWP regarding this.

Further information

Further information on Sefton Council's charging policy can be found at www.Sefton.gov.uk

There are also factsheets with more information regarding financial assessments and charges for care services available on Sefton Council's website or from your social worker.