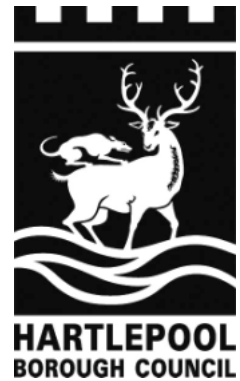


ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA



Monday 7 October 2013

at 10.00 am

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillors Fisher, Hall, A Lilley, Loynes, Richardson, Shields and Sirs

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

- 3.1 To receive the Record of Decision in respect of the meeting held on 9 September 2013 (*attached for information*)

4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS

No items

5. KEY DECISIONS

No items

6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

No items



7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Presentation - Issues arising from the Last Meeting regarding Hartfields – *Representatives from the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust*
- 7.2 Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework – Results of User Surveys 2011/12 and 2012/13 – *Assistant Director, Adult Services*
- 7.3 Review of Contribution Policy for Non Residential Services – *Assistant Director, Adult Services*

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of next meeting – 4 November 2013 at 10.00am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool



ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

9 SEPTEMBER 2013

The meeting commenced at 10.00am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Carl Richardson (In the Chair)

Councillors: Keith Fisher, Brenda Loynes, Linda Shields and Kaylee Sirs.

Also Present: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5.2;
Councillor Allan Barclay as substitute for Councillor Ged Hall.

Steve Thomas, Liz Fletcher, Maureen Lockwood and Ruby Marshall –
Healthwatch Hartlepool
John Lynch

Officers: Jill Harrison, Assistant Director, Adult Services
Jeanette Willis, Head of Finance (Child & Adult Services & Public
Health)
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

28. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Ged Hall and Alison Lilley.

29. Declarations of Interest

None.

30. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 August 2013

Confirmed.

The Assistant Director, Adult Services circulated for the Committee's information, an update on the issues at Hartfields discussed at the meeting on 12 August 2013 (min. no. 26 refers). The Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust were concerned that Members were updated as to the actual situation in relation to the heating system and the works which were scheduled to be completed this month. The Trust had indicated that it would attend a future meeting to update Members should they so wish.

Members expressed their concern in relation to the ongoing works and their potential to resolve the issues at Hartfields. A Member indicated that even during the summer months, the heating was a constant issue at residents meetings at Hartfields. The Member also raised concerns in relation to other maintenance issues at Hartfields and quoted specific issues with one of the lifts. The Member had been concerned that a lift, which was the only one in one of the three storey blocks at Hartfields, had been out of action for over a week and he was aware of elderly residents on the upper floors that had been unable to leave the building due to the lift failure.

Members were concerned that the local authority should be exercising whatever power it had through any inspection regime to address the obvious issues at Hartfields. The Assistant Director, Adult Services commented that Hartfields was an extra care facility and not a care home and as such the council's authority to inspect would need to be clarified. Action could be taken should a referral be made in relation to the standard of care of any individual receiving services commissioned by the Council falling below the contracted standards. Otherwise a clear distinction needed to be drawn between commissioned care standards and maintenance issues affecting independently owned property.

Healthwatch representatives commented that concerns were being expressed by Healthwatch groups across the country in relation to these types of extra care facility and how local authority and independent inspection was restricted. If there were care issues then it may be necessary to involve the CQC (Care Quality Commission). It was not felt that the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust was a provider that would necessarily warrant such concern but action needed to be taken earlier, rather than later, to address issues that were obviously present.

The Chair considered that it would be appropriate for representatives of the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust to be invited to the next meeting of the Committee to address Members concerns and update the Committee as to the measures taken to resolve residents concerns.

31. Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2014/15 Savings Proposal *(Assistant Director, Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Budget and Policy Framework decision.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was to enable Members to consider the initial 2014/15 savings proposals relating to the Committees remit and to feedback comments to the Finance and Policy Committee.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Adult Services outlined the current financial situation affecting the Council and the savings required over the forthcoming

financial years. The report to the Finance and Policy Committee on 2nd August 2013 provided an update on the latest position. In relation to the 2014/15 budget, the report advised Members that the Council faced a gross budget deficit of £8.524m. The gross budget deficit could be reduced to £4.594m without impacting on services through a combination of permanent budget savings and one-off factors. The Finance and Policy Committee report also detailed departmental savings proposals with a total value of £4.376m.

Assuming the proposed departmental savings were implemented there was a net unfunded deficit for 2014/15 of £0.218m. At this stage it was anticipated that this amount could be bridged from the 2014/15 New Homes Bonus which would be payable for 7 years commencing 2014/15. This income was not yet guaranteed and would depend on the share of the national New Homes Bonus funding the Council received, although at this stage this was a reasonable planning assumption. It should be noted that this proposal would mean that in 2014/15 total support for the core revenue budget from the New Homes Bonus would be £1.4m.

The Assistant Director, Adult Services highlighted to Members the savings proposals outlined in Appendix A to the report that had been identified within the remit of the Adult Services Committee. The Assistant Director gave Members a brief outline of the individual savings proposals and indicated that the report to the Committee in November would outline more specifically how these savings would be achieved; either through changes to service provision and/or staffing. Some savings could also be achieved through the re-negotiation of contracts and some others through the utilisation of NHS funding for social care.

In response to Member questions, the Chair indicated that the apportionment of the savings across departments had been identified by the Finance and Policy Committee. While some of these savings may be seen as unwelcome, if they were not supported, alternative measures to the same level would need to be identified. Healthwatch representatives were concerned at any potential savings affecting support for carers and also concerned that services that assisted people to remain in their own homes should not be reduced. The Assistant Director advised that there would be no reduction in support for carers as a result of the proposed 2014/15 saving and also stated that the council and Clinical Commissioning Group remained committed to supporting people to remain independent in their own homes. Services that promote and support independence will continue to be supported through NHS funding for social care and NHS reablement funding.

The Healthwatch representatives did request that the reports on the proposals in November give an indication of how the various funding streams came together and how front line services and core strategic objectives would be affected. The Assistant Director indicated that the reports would include these details alongside the staffing implications and highlighted that all the savings proposals would require an Equality Impact

Assessment.

Decision

That the report be noted and that Members' comments be reported to the Finance and Policy Committee meeting on 19 September 2013.

32. Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations (*Scrutiny Manager*)

Type of decision

Non-key Decision.

Purpose of report

To provide Members with the six monthly progress made on the delivery of scrutiny recommendations that fell within the remit of this Committee.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Scrutiny Manager reported on the progress made against the investigations undertaken by the previous Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum. The recommendations that now fell within the remit of the Adult Services Committee were set out in the report which provided a detailed explanation of progress made against each scrutiny recommendation since the last six monthly monitoring report had been presented to the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum in February 2013.

Decision

That the report be noted.

33. Quarter 1 Financial Management Report (*Assistant Director (Adult's), Child and Adult Services and Chief Finance Officer*)

Type of decision

None – the report was for information only.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was to inform Members of 2013/14 forecast General Fund Outturn budget outturn for the Child and Adult Services department and specific details of the services for which this Committee had responsibility.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Adult Services updated the Committee on the overall budget position for the Child and Adult Services department budget broken down by Committee, together with a brief comment on the reasons for the forecast outturn.

Decision

That the report be noted.

34. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Chairman ruled that the following items of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay.

35. Extra Care Evaluation 2013

The Healthwatch representatives reported that Healthwatch Hartlepool had issued 500 questionnaires in relation to domiciliary care to residents in Hartlepool in receipt of services, and had received over 150 responses. Healthwatch Hartlepool would be developing a report based on the responses given which should be available to this Committee at its November meeting.

Decision

That the update be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10.50am.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 16 SEPTEMBER 2013

ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

7 October 2013



Report of: Assistant Director - Adult Services

Subject: ADULT SOCIAL CARE OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK –
RESULTS OF USER SURVEYS 2011/12 & 2012/13

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

No decision required, for information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Adult Services Committee with a summary of the results from the Adult Social Care Survey and the related Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) measures, identifying how 2012/13 performance compares with the previous year and showing comparison data from other Councils in the North East.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 ASCOF was first introduced in 2011/12 and aims to measure how well social care services are delivering outcomes for people, with a focus on the issues that people have identified as being important for themselves and their friends and relatives such as:

- treats people with dignity and respect;
- supporting people to stay well and independent; and
- supporting people to play an active part in their local communities.

3.2 This is a different approach to previous performance regimes such as the Performance Assessment Framework and National Indicator Set which were very heavily focused on numbers and activity levels (e.g. number of referrals, numbers of reviews etc) and didn't address the outcomes that were being achieved for people who were using services.

3.3 Councils are expected to use ASCOF to drive up standards of care and give people choice and control over the services they use. The clear focus is to promote improving people's quality of life and their experience of care.

- 3.4 ASCOF is already being used in Local Accounts which are published annually by councils to communicate with their communities, as well as for councils own reporting, and benchmarking against national and regional progress.
- 3.5 The ASCOF measures are heavily influenced by feedback from people using services and their carers through the Adult Social Care Survey and the Adult Social Care Carers Survey (the results of which have been reported previously).

4. PERFORMANCE OF HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

- 4.1 Performance and comparison data from the Adult Social Care Survey (for users of social care services) shows that Hartlepool's position compared to other North East Councils has improved in all six outcome measures. The comparison data for 2011/12 and 2012/13 for the twelve North East Councils is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 4.2 Hartlepool is now the best performing authority in the region for two of the measures – 3A: Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support (an outcome where seven of the twelve authorities have had a decline in performance) and 3D: Proportion of people who use services and carers who find it easy to find information about services (an outcome where ten of the twelve authorities have had a decline in performance).
- 4.3 A national comparison of results for outcome 3A, which measures overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support, is attached as **Appendix 2**. The data shows that Hartlepool was the third best performing authority in the country for this outcome, achieving a satisfaction rating of 73.6% compared to the national average of 63.7%.
- 4.4 Performance has improved in relation to 2011/12 data for five of the six measures, with a very significant improvement in relation to 4B: Proportion of people who use services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure – 54.4% in 2011/12 increasing to 76.3% in 2012/13.
- 4.5 Performance has declined slightly in relation to one outcome - 4A Proportion of people who use services who feel safe, despite Hartlepool's ranking in comparison to other authorities improving in this area from 12th to 10th. This is an outcome where four other authorities have seen a decline and, because it doesn't relate to services, it could reflect how people feel generally about their neighbourhood, their housing, how financially secure they are, their physical health or how much informal support they receive from family and friends. While adult services may not be able to influence all of these factors, work will continue to understand why people may not feel safe and to put appropriate measures in place to address these concerns where possible.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Adult Services Committee receive this report and note the performance of adult services for 2011/12 and 2012/13.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 ASCOF is the national approach to measuring performance in adult social care, and the data provided enables the Adult Services Committee to understand how Hartlepool Borough Council is performing and how this compares with other councils.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

Trevor Smith
Performance & Information Manager (Adults)
Child & Adult Services
Hartlepool Borough Council
trevor.smith@hartlepool.gov.uk

PSS Survey - summary information 2011-12 & 2012-13

Updated May 2013

		1A Social care - related quality of Life		1B Proportion of people who use services who have control over their daily life		3A Overall Satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support (%)		3D Proportion of people who use services and carers who find it easy to find information about services (%)		4A Proportion of people who use services who feel safe (%)		4B Proportion of people who use services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure (%)	
ASCOF Indicator		2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13
1	Darlington	19.4	18.6	77.3	77.9	62.5	66.5	81	77.2	68.5	67.4	67.7	71.8
2	Durham	19.4	19.5	81.4	74.9	62.4	64.3	81.3	77.7	67.5	72.2	81.4	81
3	Gateshead	19.0	18.9	75.8	73.7	63.0	66.3	77.8	75.1	72	64.8	84.9	75.8
4	Hartlepool	19.0	19.1	74.1	78.0	70.7	73.6	79.4	81.3	62.8	61.1	54.4	76.3
5	Middlesbrough	19.6	19.1	81.8	77.3	65.5	60.6	79.6	75.6	68.2	68.6	90.7	88.1
6	Newcastle	19.4	19.2	79.7	78.7	68.6	62.6	80.3	72.1	71.7	71.8	70.2	74.1
7	North Tyneside	19.2	19.9	73.3	82.1	63.3	65.5	75.1	78	70.6	77.2	78.7	81.1
8	Northumberland	19.3	18.8	76.4	77.6	66.9	64.1	80	76.3	66.3	66.9	87.6	87.9
9	Redcar & Cleveland	18.7	18.5	71.9	72.7	66.8	64.7	80.1	72.8	63.8	59.2	82.7	84
10	South Tyneside	19.2	19.0	77.1	73.7	70.5	66.9	79.1	75.3	69.6	71.1	69	69.6
11	Stockton	19.2	18.4	79.5	72.1	69.6	66.6	77.9	74.5	64	58.8	60.8	74.3
12	Sunderland	19.2	19.1	77.3	72.9	71.2	70.2	80.7	70.8	70.8	71.5	85.5	83.4
Group Average		19.2	19.0	77	76	67	66	80	76	68	68	77	79
Highest		19.6	19.9	81.8	82.1	71.2	73.6	81.3	81.3	72	77.2	90.7	88.1
Lowest		18.7	18.4	71.9	72.1	62.4	60.6	75.1	70.8	62.8	58.8	54.4	69.6
Hartlepool Ranking		10	4	10	3	2	1	8	1	12	10	12	7

Notes:

Hartlepool 3D figure is made up of an average of 2 components - 84.7% from Carers Survey and 77.9% from PSS User Survey

All of the above measures are reported in ASCOF (Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework) and are produced via the PSS User Survey

All figures above are %, except 1A which is a weighted response to 8 questions.

Health and Social Care Information Centre

Sep 2013

CASSR Name	3A Outcome	3A Base	Ranking (position)
	3A Overall Satisfaction of people who use service with their care and support (%)	Total number of respondents to ASCS Q1 + Easy Read ASCQ Q1 (unweighted)	
North East Lincolnshire	89.8	55	1
Redbridge	74.1	470	2
Hartlepool	73.6	300	3
Rotherham	73.3	390	4
Torbay	72.6	400	5
Isle of Wight	72.0	435	6
Rutland	71.5	195	7
Kingston upon Hull	71.4	435	8
Sefton	70.3	395	9
Sunderland	70.2	400	10
East Riding of Yorkshire	69.6	250	11
Bury	69.6	345	11
Cumbria	68.9	515	13
Worcestershire	68.9	450	13
Kirklees	68.8	710	15
Norfolk	68.5	360	16
Plymouth	68.5	340	16
Wigan	68.1	425	18
Derbyshire	68.1	420	18
Leicestershire	68.0	330	20
Trafford	67.9	385	21
Devon	67.7	385	22
Leeds	67.6	480	23
Barnsley	67.4	310	24
Blackpool	67.3	485	25
Richmond upon Thames	67.3	395	25
Kent	67.3	465	25
St. Helens	67.2	410	28
Leicester	67.1	505	29
Herefordshire	67.0	315	30
Enfield	67.0	735	30
South Tyneside	66.9	330	32
Staffordshire	66.9	435	32
Knowsley	66.8	570	34
Lancashire	66.8	470	34
Wirral	66.7	340	36
Stockton-on-Tees	66.6	350	37
Darlington	66.5	360	38
Manchester	66.5	380	38
Gateshead	66.3	365	40
Doncaster	66.2	370	41
Central Bedfordshire	66.1	300	42
East Sussex	66.1	410	42
Wokingham	66.0	365	44
Dorset	66.0	410	44
Bournemouth	65.9	270	46
South Gloucestershire	65.9	400	46
York	65.8	415	48
North Lincolnshire	65.7	430	49
Walsall	65.6	1,030	50
Southampton	65.6	700	50
North Tyneside	65.5	570	52
Halton	65.4	460	53
Stockport	65.3	380	54
Liverpool	65.3	955	54
Hampshire	65.3	1,305	54
Cheshire East	65.2	375	57
North Somerset	65.0	320	58
Coventry	64.9	400	59
Lewisham	64.9	325	59
Somerset	64.9	595	59
Redcar and Cleveland	64.7	420	62

Health and Social Care Information Centre

Sep 2013

CASSR Name	3A Outcome	3A Base	Ranking (position)
	3A Overall Satisfaction of people who use service with their care and support (%)	Total number of respondents to ASCS Q1 + Easy Read ASCQ Q1 (unweighted)	
Blackburn with Darwen	64.7	375	62
Nottinghamshire	64.7	415	62
Suffolk	64.7	760	62
West Sussex	64.7	475	62
Tameside	64.6	310	67
Bracknell Forest	64.5	655	68
Barnet	64.5	435	68
Durham	64.3	405	70
Bolton	64.3	825	70
Stoke-on-Trent	64.3	380	70
Peterborough	64.3	510	70
Tower Hamlets	64.3	390	70
Cornwall	64.3	330	70
North Yorkshire	64.2	535	76
Northumberland	64.1	525	77
Birmingham	64.1	480	77
Gloucestershire	64.1	375	77
Solihull	63.9	735	80
Calderdale	63.7	310	81
Camden	63.7	435	81
Cheshire West and Chester	63.6	570	83
Lincolnshire	63.6	390	83
Sutton	63.6	385	83
Northamptonshire	63.3	515	86
Swindon	63.2	370	87
Bath and North East Somerset	63.2	515	87
Bristol	63.2	435	87
Wolverhampton	63.0	400	90
Salford	62.9	510	91
Warrington	62.8	355	92
Medway Towns	62.7	425	93
Newcastle upon Tyne	62.6	480	94
Shropshire	62.6	360	94
Kensington and Chelsea	62.5	405	96
Nottingham	62.4	450	97
Oxfordshire	62.4	510	97
Wakefield	62.1	395	99
Surrey	62.1	600	99
Southend-on-Sea	61.9	400	101
Westminster	61.9	325	101
West Berkshire	61.6	465	103
Bedford	61.6	315	103
Bexley	61.6	330	103
Hillingdon	61.6	265	103
Wiltshire	61.3	365	107
Dudley	61.2	750	108
Milton Keynes	61.2	380	108
Greenwich	61.1	345	110
Poole	60.9	375	111
Bromley	60.8	675	112
Middlesbrough	60.6	335	113
Oldham	60.3	580	114
Luton	60.1	445	115
Rochdale	60.0	330	116
Warwickshire	59.9	365	117
Windsor and Maidenhead	59.6	330	118
Thurrock	59.6	290	118
Derby	59.4	355	120
Cambridgeshire	59.0	565	121
Telford and the Wrekin	58.9	315	122
Ealing	58.9	355	122
Hammersmith and Fulham	58.8	275	124

Health and Social Care Information Centre

Sep 2013

CASSR Name	3A Outcome	3A Base	Ranking (position)
	3A Overall Satisfaction of people who use service with their care and support (%)	Total number of respondents to ASCS Q1 + Easy Read ASCQ Q1 (unweighted)	
Essex	58.5	960	125
Hackney	58.3	370	126
Reading	58.1	395	127
Bradford	57.9	685	128
Newham	57.5	550	129
Merton	57.4	340	130
Islington	57.2	320	131
Harrow	57.2	310	131
Buckinghamshire	57.0	385	133
Barking and Dagenham	56.8	395	134
Havering	56.8	355	134
Wandsworth	56.6	870	136
Sheffield	56.4	525	137
Sandwell	56.2	330	138
Haringey	55.5	345	139
Lambeth	55.2	440	140
Hertfordshire	54.6	370	141
Kingston upon Thames	54.4	235	142
Waltham Forest	54.3	355	143
Croydon	54.2	440	144
Hounslow	53.7	690	145
Southwark	49.3	940	146
Brighton and Hove	46.6	385	147
Brent	32.9	225	148
Portsmouth	31.9	160	149
Slough	-
City of London	-
Isles of Scilly	-
England	63.7	65,945	

ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

7 October 2013



Report of: Assistant Director, Adult Services

Subject: REVIEW OF CONTRIBUTION POLICY FOR NON RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Non key; for information.

Following the consultation process, a further report will be submitted to the Adult Services Committee on 6 January 2014 regarding implementing a revised Contribution Policy from April 2014. This will be a key decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 This purpose of this report is to provide the Adult Services Committee with information regarding the current Contribution Policy and proposals to review the policy to achieve additional income from April 2014.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Section 17 of the Health and Social Services Security Adjudications Act 1983 gives Councils discretionary powers to require adult recipients of non-residential support services to contribute to the cost of their provision.

3.2 In March 2008 the Council approved the replacement of the various non-residential charges with a unified contribution towards care funding. All contributions are equal to the cost of the support plan, up to the amount the individual is assessed as being able to pay. The Council shares the cost of all support plans, meeting 25% of the cost irrespective of a person's ability to contribute towards the cost of their provision. The contribution is currently capped at the cost of a residential care home placement, based on the needs of the individual. The current level of contributions raises approximately £2.2 million of income per year.

3.3 Over the last 12 months the Council has supported approximately 4,600 people to live in their own homes. Of this number approximately 1,680

people were eligible for a personal budget, so were financially assessed to determine whether they should contribute towards the cost of their ongoing support. Between 500 and 550 people of this 1,680 were assessed as nil charge owing to their low incomes and this number will remain constant irrespective of any proposed increases. Of the 1,680 people assessed, between 630 and 700 would not contribute any more for their care than they do now as they currently contribute to their maximum ability. This means that between 380 and 430 people could be asked to contribute more if the proposals were implemented.

- 3.4 The current Contribution Policy was implemented in 2008 and has not been amended since then.
- 3.5 The current economic climate has impacted significantly on the Council's budget. It is essential that the Council now reviews the level at which people contribute towards the cost of the services they receive.
- 3.6 The change being proposed, if implemented, would contribute to the very challenging savings target set for adult services and would result in people who can afford to do so making a greater contribution towards the cost of their support services.
- 3.7 The impact on people who receive support services will be to potentially increase the amount a person may pay for the services they require. This will be within a financial assessment framework which ensures fairness and equity between all groups of service users. Generating additional income will support the continued delivery of front line adult social care services at a time of increased financial austerity and will only affect people who can afford to pay more.
- 3.8 The financial assessment process ensures that people retain a basic level of income and that they have sufficient money to meet their basic housing costs and any disability related expenditure. Individuals will only contribute to the cost of their services based on their ability to pay.
- 3.9 The financial assessment process for non residential care takes into account savings over the lower capital level limit, which is currently £14,250 but does not take into account the value of an individual's main residence.

4. PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The proposal that will be put forward for consultation is as follows:

To increase the amount that is paid by people who can afford to contribute to their support costs, by either raising the current 75% threshold to 95% or removing the threshold so that people contribute up to 100% of the costs of their support.

- 4.2 It is anticipated that increasing the threshold to 95% would generate additional income of approximately £158,000 – £175,000 per year. Removing the threshold so that people contribute up to 100% of the costs of their support costs would generate additional income of approximately £196,000 - £218,000 per year.
- 4.3 As with the current Contribution Policy, the most anyone will be expected to pay will depend on their individual circumstances and level of income following a financial assessment.
- 4.4 This proposal would impact on between 380 and 430 individuals based on patterns of assessment in the last financial year. Exactly how much more each person would pay per week would depend upon how much support they receive and how much they are able to afford. Further detail showing approximate numbers of people affected, and by how much, is provided in **Appendix 1**.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Department of Health guidance requires the Council to consult with the public on changes to the Contribution Policy and its subsequent implementation. The Contribution Policy consultation document (see **Appendix 2**) will be circulated widely as part of this process.
- 5.2 The consultation process will include:
- The consultation document and questionnaire being sent to all people using non residential services with an easy read version to be sent to people with learning disabilities;
 - on-line questionnaire via survey monkey;
 - 2 public meetings – one during the day and one in the evening;
 - Service User Focus Group; and
 - existing groups that involve people who use services and / or carers.
- 5.3 The consultation process will take place between 14 October and 26 November 2013. The feedback from the consultation process will inform the proposed new Contribution Policy which will be submitted to the Adult Services Committee on 6 January 2014 for a decision regarding implementation from 1 April 2014.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 If the proposal to increase the amount that people contribute to the costs of their care package, according to their means, is implemented following consultation this will generate additional income of £158,000 – £175,000 per year (if the threshold is increased to 95%) or additional income of £196,000 - £218,000 per year (if the threshold is removed).

- 6.2 This additional income would make a significant contribution towards achieving the department's proposed savings of £1.325m for 2014/15 with no impact on service provision.
- 6.3 Failure to take savings identified as part of the 2014/15 savings programme will result in the need to make alternative unplanned cuts and redundancies elsewhere in the department to balance next year's budget. Alternative proposals to deliver savings would be likely to have a greater impact on front line services.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached at **Appendix 3**. Changes to the Contribution Policy potentially affect all citizens of Hartlepool who are in receipt of support services from the Council. 17% of the population in Hartlepool is over 65 years old and 33% of the population has some form of disability. It is estimated that if proposals are implemented then approximately 2% of people with a learning disability, 5% of people who have a mental illness, 4-6% of people with a physical disability and 37% of older people who currently pay a contribution will see an increase in their contributions, based on their ability to pay. Further detail regarding how many people will be affected in the various client groups is attached at **Appendix 4**.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Adult Services Committee note the proposed change to the Contribution Policy and the planned consultation process.
- 8.2 It is also recommended that the Adult Services Committee receives a further report on 6 January 2014, following consultation, to make a decision regarding implementation of a revised Contribution Policy from 1 April 2014.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The review provides an opportunity to reconsider current levels of contribution, ensure equity and transparency for service users and generate additional income to support the delivery of adult social care services at a time of increased financial austerity.

10. CONTACT OFFICERS

Jill Harrison
Assistant Director – Adult Services
E-mail: jill.harrison@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: 01429 523911

Geraldine Martin
Head of Service, Adult Social Care
E-mail: geraldine.martin@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: 01429 523880

Potential No of Individuals Affected

	95% Proposal	100% Proposal
a- Nil Charge	500 - 550	500 - 550
b-no change	630 - 700	630 - 700
c-£0.01-£4.99	60 - 70	40 - 50
d-£5.00-£9.99	80 - 90	80 - 90
e-£10.00-£19.99	130 - 150	140 - 150
f-£20.00-£29.99	40 - 50	40 - 40
g-£30.00-£49.99	50 - 50	50 - 60
h-£50.00-£69.99	10 - 10	20 - 30
i-£70.00-£89.99	10 - 10	0 - 0
j-£90.00+	0 - 0	10 - 10
Numbers affected	380 - 430	380 - 430
TOTAL	1510 - 1680	1510 - 1680

**Potential Income Generated from
Individuals Affected**

	95% Threshold	100% Threshold
a- Nil Charge	£0 - £0	£0 - £0
b-no change	£0 - £0	£0 - £0
c-£0.01-£4.99	£5,100 - £5,600	£2,900 - £3,300
d-£5.00-£9.99	£13,900 - £15,400	£13,800 - £15,400
e-£10.00-£19.99	£41,400 - £46,000	£48,700 - £54,100
f-£20.00-£29.99	£28,300 - £31,400	£18,800 - £20,800
g-£30.00-£49.99	£52,500 - £58,300	£63,500 - £70,600
h-£50.00-£69.99	£10,800 - £12,000	£40,900 - £45,500
i-£70.00-£89.99	£5,800 - £6,400	£0 - £0
j-£90.00+	£0 - £0	£7,200 - £8,000
TOTAL	£157,800 - £175,100	£195,800 - £217,700

PROPOSED CHANGES TO FAIRER CHARGING CONTRIBUTION POLICY

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



1. INTRODUCTION

Hartlepool Borough Council is asking for your views on a proposed change to the amount that adults of all ages, who receive non residential care services, contribute to the costs of the services they receive.

The proposed change may affect people who are currently assessed to make a contribution to the cost of their services, including domiciliary care (home care), personal care or day care provision as well as people who receive a direct payment to purchase their care and support.

2. WHY ARE WE CONSULTING?

The Contribution Policy sets out the way that the Council works out how much someone pays towards their non-residential care support services.

The Contribution Policy was revised in 2008 and has not changed since then.

The current economic climate has impacted significantly on the Council's budget and this means that the Council must consider implementing a change to the amount people contribute towards the services they receive. This change will help the Council to continue to provide services that support the most vulnerable people in our community and will only affect people who can afford to contribute more towards the cost of their support services. We think this is fair and reasonable, but before a decision is made we would like to hear your views.

3. WHO WOULD WE LIKE TO HEAR FROM?

We would like to hear from people who may be directly affected by the proposals including people who use services and their carers as well as service providers and Hartlepool residents. All service users who have been assessed have been sent the consultation document and been asked for their views.

The consultation will involve a significant number of people across the borough who receive services but **will only affect those who can afford to contribute more towards the services they receive.**

4. THE CHANGE WE ARE PROPOSING

While we are proposing a change to the way we assess a person's contribution, we will continue to assess each person on an individual basis. We know that in many cases people will not be able to pay for the services that they receive and this proposal will help to ensure that we continue to be able to support the most vulnerable members of our community.

PROPOSAL

To increase the amount that people contribute, according to their means, up to the total value of their support package. At the moment the Council pays 25% of a person's support costs irrespective of their financial means.

The proposal is to increase the amount a person who can afford to do so, following a financial assessment, contributes to their support costs.

We feel that people should contribute as much as they can afford and the current 75% threshold should be raised to 95% or removed so that people contribute up to 100% of their care costs if they can afford to do so.

If the threshold was raised to 95% we anticipate that the Council would raise additional income of £158,000 – £175,000 per year.

If the threshold was removed and people contributed up to 100% we anticipate additional income of approximately £196,000 -£218,000 per year would be raised.

5. WHO WOULD BE AFFECTED?

Of the 4,600 people who are supported by the Council in their own homes, approximately 1,680 people have been assessed financially to see whether they have sufficient income to contribute towards the cost of their support services.

The proposed change would affect between 380 and 430 of the 4,600 people that the Council currently supports to stay in their own homes.

There would be no impact for the majority of the people the Council supports as they cannot afford to make a contribution to the cost of their support services or are already making the maximum contribution that they can afford to make.

The most anyone will be expected to pay will depend on individual circumstances. No-one will be expected to pay more than the cost of their support package or more than they are assessed as being able to pay.

6. HOW CAN I COMMENT ON THIS PROPOSAL?

We would like to hear any views you may have on this proposal. Please share your views with us and make specific comments or suggestions relating to these proposed changes:

Online survey: www.hartlepool.gov.uk

E-mail us at: geraldine.martin@hartlepool.gov.uk

Write to us at: Geraldine Martin
Head of Service (Adults)
Hartlepool Borough Council
Civic Centre
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
S24 8AY

Talk to us at: two open meetings which will be held as follows:-

Date: Monday 18 November 2013

Time: 3.00pm – 4.30pm

OR

5.30pm – 7.00pm

Venue: Committee Room B
Civic Centre
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY

The consultation will close on 26 November 2013.

Department	Division	Section	Owner/Officer
Child and Adult Services	Adult Social Care	Adults over 18 years who meet the eligibility criteria for services	Jill Harrison, Assistant Director Geraldine Martin, Head of Service
Function/Service	Review of the current Hartlepool Borough Council Contribution Policy for non-residential services and support.		
Information Available	The purpose of the Contributions Policy is to establish how the Council will calculate the contribution an adult makes towards the cost of non-residential social care support. The policy sets out how a person's contribution, if any, will be determined. The review is focused on increasing the maximum a person can contribute to the cost of their care from 75% to either 95% or 100% in cases where it is assessed that people can afford to pay this amount.		
Relevance <i>Identify which strands are relevant to the area you are reviewing or changing</i>	Age		✓
	17% of the population in Hartlepool is over 65 and 66% of people who contribute to the cost of their services are over 65. Approximately 37% of older people would pay more if the proposals were implemented. However, by charging the actual cost of the service and offering a financial assessment to everyone, a person will only pay a contribution based on their individual financial circumstances. The financial assessment leaves people with a minimum of income support levels + 25% and takes into account disability related expenditure.		
	Disability		✓
	33% of the population in Hartlepool have some form of disability. Approximately 2% of people with a learning disability, 5% of people with mental health issues and 4% of people with a physical disability would pay more if the proposals were implemented. However, people are financially assessed to establish how much they can contribute and would only pay more if it was assessed that they could afford to do so. The financial assessment leaves people with a minimum of income support levels + 25% and takes into account disability related expenditure.		
	Gender Re-assignment		X
	Race		X
	Religion		X
	Gender		X
	Sexual Orientation		X
	Marriage & Civil Partnership		X
	Pregnancy & Maternity		X

Information Gaps	Consultation will take place to determine people's views on the proposals to generate additional income for the council. A full consultation will be undertaken prior to any decision being taken regarding implementation of proposed changes.		
What is the Impact	The impact will be to increase the amount a person may pay for the services they receive, within a framework of financial assessment which ensures fairness and equity between service user groups. Generating additional income will support the delivery of adult social care services at a time of increased financial austerity and will only affect people who can afford to pay more towards the cost of their services. The financial assessment process ensures that people retain a basic level of income and that they have sufficient money to meet their basic housing costs and any disability-related expenditure.		
Addressing the impact	1. No Impact- No Major Change - There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact on the above Protected Characteristics. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken and no further analysis or action is required.		
Actions			
<i>It will be useful to record and monitor any actions resulting from your assessment to ensure that they have had the intended effect and that the outcomes have been achieved.</i>			
Action identified	Responsible Officer	By When	How will this be evaluated?
Consultation exercise to be undertaken with current service users, carers and interested groups.	Geraldine Martin	26 November 2013	Feedback will be collated and reported back to the Adult Services Committee on 6 January 2014 when a decision will be made regarding implementation of a revised Contribution Policy.

Date sent to Equality Rep for publishing	01/10/13
Date Published	00/00/00
Date Assessment Carried out	02/09/13

7.3 Appendix 4

Potential No's of Individuals Affected: 95% Threshold

95%	Learning Disability		Mental Health		Older People		Physical Disability		Total						
a-Nil Charge	65	-	70	65	-	70	240	-	270	125	-	140	495	-	550
b-No change	190	-	210	10	-	10	380	-	420	50	-	60	630	-	700
c-£0.01-£4.99	0	-	0	4	-	4	65	-	70	0	-	0	69	-	74
d-£5.00-£9.99	2	-	2	0	-	0	80	-	92	7	-	10	89	-	104
e-£10.00-£19.99	2	-	2	0	-	0	126	-	140	0	-	0	128	-	142
f-£20.00-£29.99	0	-	0	0	-	0	36	-	40	2	-	2	38	-	42
g-£30.00+	2	-	2	0	-	0	59	-	66	0	-	0	61	-	68
TOTAL	261	-	286	79	-	84	986	-	1098	184	-	212	1510	-	1680
	2%		2%	5%		5%	37%		37%	5%		6%	25%		26%

Potential No's of Individuals Affected: 100% Threshold

100%	Learning Disability		Mental Health		Older People		Physical Disability		Total						
a-Nil Charge	65	-	70	60	-	70	240	-	270	120	-	140	485	-	550
b-No change	195	-	210	10	-	10	385	-	420	50	-	60	640	-	700
c-£0.01-£4.99	0		0	4		4	40		52	0		0	44		56
d-£5.00-£9.99	2		2	0		0	75		80	5		6	82		88
e-£10.00-£19.99	2	-	2	0	-	0	134	-	150	0		0	136	-	152
f-£20.00-£29.99	0	-	0	0	-	0	40	-	40	0		0	40	-	40
g-£30.00+	2	-	2	0	-	0	80	-	90	2		2	84	-	94
TOTAL	265	-	286	74	-	84	994		1102	177		208	1510	-	1680
	2%		2%	5%		5%	37%		37%	4%		4%	26%		26%