

Lincolnshire County Council

Adult Care Annual Statement

Appendix Adult Care Charging policy

April 2020

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1. Introduction

This statement sets out the main rates/fees/allowances that may be applied by Lincolnshire County Council for non-residential and residential care services to adults in receipt of such services.

Your expenditure will be treated differently during the financial assessment depending on the type of care you are receiving:

- Non Residential - your household costs and disability related expenditure (DRE) will be taken into account – See Section 3 for more detail about banded/receipted DRE
- temporary residential care - expenses will be taken into account to maintain your home throughout your stay in addition to a personal expenditure allowance
- permanent residential care - you will be left with a minimum amount of income known as personal expenditure allowance
- An allowance of up to £5,000 is allowed for funeral expenses, if evidence of a purchased plan or bond, is provided.

1.1. Chargeable Services

Chargeable services are those set out in the Council's revised Adult Care Charging Policy which is for non-residential and residential services and will come into effect from the 13th April 2020.

The higher capital limit is the maximum amount of funds that can be held in assets/cash, above this it is considered that care will be self-funded.

Capital Limits:

Lower limit - £14,250.00

Higher limit - £23,250.00

Assumed Income from Capital – £1 for every £250, or part thereof, between £14,250 and £23,250

Maximum weekly charge – There is no maximum charge. A full financial assessment will be carried out to calculate the contribution due to be made by the person using the services.

2. Rates Non Residential/Residential

With effect from Saturday 18th April 2020:

Home Care and Community Supported Living	Agreed 20/21
Hourly Rate Home Support Rural	£16.65
Hourly Rate Home Support Urban	£16.27

Hourly Rate Community Supported Living	£16.52
Minimum assessed level for Charges to Apply	£2.00
Maximum Weekly Charge	Full Package Cost
Personal Budget Cost Applied	100%
Day care Services	
Day Services Standard Ceiling Rate (Per Day)	£43.94
Day Services Enhanced Ceiling Rate (Per Day)	£59.64
Day Services 1-1 hours Ceiling rate (Per Hour)	£11.40

Where assets are over the higher capital limit but you wish for the LA to arrange and manage the Non Residential care package there is one-off set up fee of £445.

With effect from Monday 13th April 2020

Residential Rates	Agreed 2020/21
Older People Standard Residential	£521.00
Older People – Higher Dependency	£573.00
Older People – Nursing	£574.00
Mental Health – Residential	£542.00
Mental Health – Nursing	£573.00
Physical Disability	£671.00

Learning Disabilities Residential Rates with effect from Monday 13th April 2020

		Band 3	Band 2	Band 1
Staffing Ratio		Very intensive , high levels of care, very complex needs by exception	Medium for substantial needs	Moderate for appreciable needs:
Total Number of Hours				
1:7				21
1:5			29	
1:3		45		
Unit Rates		Band 3	Band 2	Band 1
2020/21	Standard 13+ beds	£924	£733	£637
	Smaller 7-12 beds	£969	£778	£682
	Smallest 1-6 beds	£1,013	£823	£727

3. Disability Related Expenditure – Non Residential Only

Disability Related Expenses (DRE) are additional expenses that a person may incur due to their disability.

Adult Charging
Adult Statement of Charges

3.1 Banded DRE

Lincolnshire County Council operate a banded DRE system where a person will be automatically allocated a weekly allowance which is dependent on the benefits they can claim due to their disability, as shown below:

DRE Banding	Benefits claimed	DRE
Level 1	Low rate Disability Living Allowance care component (DLA)	£10
Level 2	Middle rate DLA, standard care component Personal Independence daily living Payment (PIP), low rate Attendance Allowance (AA)	£15
Level 3	High rate DLA care component, enhanced PIP daily living component, high rate AA	£25

3.2 Received Disability Related Expenditure

If a person feels their expenses relating to their disability are higher than the banded allowance they can appeal by contacting Fin_Assessments@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Please refer to section 3.2.1 onwards for details of how this will be assessed. Receipts must be provided for all the expenses they are claiming and the newly assessed rate would be used even if it is lower than the original band.

If a person has already had a DRE assessment and provided receipts, they should continue to retain receipts/invoices in readiness for any request to provide them, such as for a review of their assessment.

If a person is appealing the DRE band allowed they will be assessed individually and their particular circumstances taken into account.

Statutory guidance defines disability related expenditure as 'items where the person has little or no choice other than to incur the expenditure, in order to maintain independence of life'. Two key questions which assessors will consider, therefore, are:

- i) Does the person have 'little or no choice' in incurring the expenditure?
- ii) Would the person's 'independence of life' be put at risk if they did not incur the expenditure?

People will be able to submit detailed claims of their Disability Related Expenditure, if they have appealed against the banded rate.

The difference in the amounts spent by disabled people because of their disability is wide. In order to ensure a fair and consistent approach, the following amounts are for guidance only.

3.2.1 Evidence for receipted DRE

It should be noted that the statutory guidance states that 'it is legitimate for councils that items claimed for have actually been purchased'.

The council will therefore require evidence that amounts being claimed to be spent are being spent in the form of receipts. In situations where amounts being claimed are higher than the guideline amounts evidence should also be provided and considered as to why this expenditure meets the two questions above.

The person who uses services will be expected, to evidence the costs which they incur. If they are unable to do so then they should be advised to keep all receipts for at least three months and then contact Fin_Assessments@lincolnshire.gov.uk for a review.

The following figures are based on practice guidance issued by the National Association of Financial Assessment Officers (NAFAO) and locally evidenced charges for certain services provided by companies here in Lincolnshire.

3.2.2 Extra Costs of Heating

In cases where people's heating costs are above the average levels for the area and housing type due to age, medical condition or disability the additional heating costs may be allowed. This will be calculated based on the services which provide of heat to the person who uses home services, e.g. gas, electric, oil, etc.

Annual Average Heating Costs (Based on average dual fuel bill)

Single Person	Annual Average	Average Per Week
Flat/Terraced House	£ 1389.85	(£26.73pw)
Semi-Detached	£ 1476.22	(£28.39pw)
Detached	£ 1794.81	(£34.52pw)

Couple	Annual Average	Average Per Week
Flat/Terraced House	£ 1831.81	(£35.23pw)
Semi-Detached	£ 1943.99	(£37.38pw)
Detached	£ 2365.77	(£45.50pw)

Source: National Assessment of Financial Assessment Officers (NAFAO) DRE 20/21 document

3.2.3 Metered Water

Excess costs due to disability may be allowed based on the costs of similar properties and taking into account any disabled-related equipment that might result in additional use of water. The amount allowed will be based on costs incurred over and above average usage. If the user receives their water from a supplier other than those listed then the overall average usage should be used as a basis for the allowable water costs.

Annual Average Water Usage Costs – Based on information provided by Anglian Water in March 2020

Number of Occupants	Average Annual Cost	Weekly Cost
1 person	£277.50	£5.34
2 people	£440.81	£8.48
3 people	£478.96	£9.21
4 people	£537.36	£10.33
5 people or more	£610.35	£11.74

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3.3 Equipment

The following allowances have been taken from the Disability Income Group (DIG) publication Disability-Related Costs and Charges for Community Care.

Always ask the Person who uses services the actual cost of their equipment first and use the figures below as a guide only. These are allowances recommended by National Association of Financial Assessment Officers and uplifted by 1.5% as per November 2019 CPI rate, if a person can submit evidence that equipment costs more than the figures below then the higher amount should be allowed. If the users' equipment costs less, then the actual cost should be allowed.

Equipment	Cost per Week
Wheelchair manual	- Cost divided by 500 (10yr life) up to £4.07 per week
Wheelchair powered	- Cost divided by 500 (10yr life) up to £9.89 per week (this includes electric scooters and buggies)
Powered Bed	Cost divided by 500 (10yr life) up to £4.50 per week
Turning Bed	Cost divided by 500 (10yr life) up to £7.88 per week
Powered reclining chair	Cost divided by 500 (10yr life) up to £3.57 per week
Stair-lift	Cost divided by 500 (10yr life) up to £6.36 per week
Hoist	Cost divided by 500 (10yr life) up to £3.12 per week

The cost of any other Equipment needed because of a disability would be divided over the life of the equipment in the same way as the equipment listed above, this could include specialist communications equipment such as computer and telephone items. Evidence of purchase will be required (without Disabled Facilities Grants or other funding) where appropriate.

The amount quoted for stair lifts is likely to cover only a straight forward installation. If the stair lift has to be installed to take account of corners in a staircase then the installation cost is likely to be more than the amount given here.

Maintenance and repair contracts for disabled-related equipment will be included. Receipts will be needed. For non-planned repairs, the person should tell Social Services and ask that the cost be spread out over a year and their assessment changed for the next twelve months.

Insurance on essential aids such as stair lifts is also allowed up to a maximum of £6.36 per week.

3.3.1 Adaptations

Minor adaptations will ordinarily be covered by the Integrated Community Equipment Service and so this should be checked before expenditure on this type of work is allowed.

If users require adaptations to their home which fall outside the scope of the Integrated Community Equipment Service then they would usually be referred to the District Council for consideration for a Disabled Facilities Grant to fund the work required.

If, however, the user has paid for the work or part of the work, themselves then it will depend on their circumstances as to how this can be considered.

If they have paid for the work out of their own capital then the cost will ordinarily have already been allowed as part of the assessment of capital. In this case there is no need to consider the costs incurred within disability related expenditure as well.

If the person has taken out a loan for the work then the loan repayments should be considered as a regular weekly amount within the disability related expenditure part of the financial assessment.

3.4 Garden Maintenance, Cleaning and Domestic Help

Reasonable costs of basic garden maintenance, cleaning or domestic help may be allowed if it is needed through the person's disability and not met by Social Services.

3.4.1 Garden Maintenance

The maximum amount will usually be £17.44 per week unless there is sufficient alternative evidence to the contrary. This is based on two hours per week at £8.72 per hour. If the person wishes to claim more than this then they will need to evidence the reason for this and it will be for the officer completing the form to decide if this is reasonable or not, in liaison with their manager or the social worker, if appropriate. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances.

3.4.2 Cleaning and Domestic Help

The maximum amount will usually be £26.16 per week unless there is sufficient alternative evidence to the contrary. This is based on three hours per week at £8.72 per hour. If the person wishes to claim more than this then they will need to evidence the reason for this and it will be for the officer completing the form to decide if this is reasonable or not, in liaison with their manager or the social worker, if appropriate. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances.

3.5 Privately Arranged Care

Reasonable costs may be allowed. Reasonable would take account of the capacity of the user, the circumstances and health of others living in the household, and the availability of voluntary help.

The maximum amount will usually be £26.16 per week unless there is sufficient alternative evidence to the contrary. This is based on three hours per week at £8.72 per hour. If the user wishes to claim more than this then they will need to evidence the reason for this and it will be for the officer completing the form to decide if this is reasonable or not, in liaison with their manager or the social worker, if appropriate. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances

Costs relating to Personal Assistants can be considered. They would include any household or other necessary cost arising for the user.

3.6 Laundry and Incontinence

3.6.1 Laundry

The average amount of laundry per week, according to the Family Income Survey, is 4 loads. Following the recommendations of the Disability Income Group an allowance could be given for loads slightly above this level. However, there is also the need to reflect costs incurred when large amounts of washing are incurred. The costs allowed will be on a sliding scale as follows:

Number of Loads	Allowance
5 to 7	£3.91
8 to 14	£7.82
15+	£11.72

Consideration can also be given where a person does not have access to a washing machine, is not able to access a launderette and therefore has to use a laundry service. If specialist washing powders need to be used due to a disability the difference in costs will be included in allowances.

3.6.2 Incontinence

The cost of Incontinence aids are allowed under the scheme. Receipts/evidence will be required.

3.7 Holidays

Actual additional cost in excess of normal costs for a similar holiday divided by 52; Note that an allowance of 2 weeks per 12 month period. The normal cost would need to be identified and deducted from the total cost to highlight the extra cost element.

Evidence of actual cost for comparison purposes would need to show what extra price has been levied against the normal cost of a holiday, i.e. cost of hiring equipment and supplement costs for specific accommodation necessary because of the individual's disability.

3.8 Prescription Charges

It is proposed to allow the actual costs incurred to a maximum of the cost of a Pre-payment NHS Prescription Charge Certificate (Season Ticket) or annual cost of prescriptions if less. However, many people are in receipt of exemptions due to their age or disability.

3.9 Night Support

If a person is receiving higher Attendance Allowance or Disabled Living Allowance and the cost of any night-time care exceeds these allowances the excess costs may be claimed as Disability-related expenditure.

3.10 Transport

If DLA mobility is in payment, costs of transport can only be considered if they exceed the amount of the mobility component. Where DLA mobility is not paid and costs are greater than those incurred by an able bodied person then costs may be allowed. An example is where the cost of a taxi journey is £5.00 but the taxi company charge £8.00 for provision of taxi with wheel chair access. The extra £3.00 will be considered where there is evidence in the Care Plan for need of specialist transport and confirmation from transport provider that extra costs have been levied and for what purpose. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances

3.11 Dietary

This can be considered when it can be demonstrated the person has to purchase specific food etc. linked to a medical condition which costs more than the average. In terms of expenditure only the difference in cost can be considered. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances

Adult Social Care may need to seek permission to approach GP, to confirm the medical reason.

3.12 Clothing and Footwear

The Practice Guidance states that an allowance should be made for clothing or footwear that is specially made, or where additional wear and tear occurs due to disability as referenced in care plan. Any allowance depends on individual needs, relating to the extra cost i.e. where specialist footwear needs to be purchased. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances

3.13 Chiropody

A number of people are unable to maintain their own nails. In these cases, a chiropodist may visit to do this and a maximum level of £2.00 per week is allowed.

3.14 Communication Costs

These are discretionary, based on costs that would not normally be paid, so evidence of any extra expenditure would need to be provided.

3.15 Furniture and Fixtures

Where additional wear and tear occurs due to disability it is reasonable to allow for the actual expenditure incurred. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances.

3.18 Community Alarm

The maximum amount will usually be £5.00 per week unless there is sufficient alternative evidence to the contrary. If the person wishes to claim more than this, they will need to evidence the reason for this and it will be for the officer completing the form to decide if this is reasonable or not in liaison with the manager or the social worker, if appropriate.

3.19 Window Cleaner

The maximum amount will usually be £3.00 per week unless there is sufficient alternative evidence to the contrary. If the person wishes to claim more than this, they will need to evidence the reason for this and it will be for the officer completing the form to decide if this is reasonable or not in liaison with the manager or the social worker, if appropriate. Receipts/evidence will be required in all circumstances

3.20 Other Costs

The above is not an exhaustive list of disability-related costs. The guidance stipulates that 'weight should be given to the user's perception of needs and costs related to disability' and 'any additional expenses claimed in relation to a person's disability should be considered'.

4 Charges for 2020/21

Please see listed below a number of charges that will be applied by Lincolnshire County Council for services

4.1 Monitoring costs for Telecare

For anyone who meets the Adult Care eligibility criteria for Adult Care the charge is £1.50 per week.

4.2 Locally determined charges – charges to other Local Authorities

Charges to Other LA'S	£
Day Centres	£59.64
Assessments completed on behalf of another LA	£250.00

4.4 Deferred charges in relation to property/land assessed debts and Interest Charges

See table below

Interest Charges on Property/Land Assessed Debts/Set up Fee for Deferred Payments	Interest Rate/Fee
Lincolnshire County Council Standard Terms of Payments	Base Interest Rate + 2%
Deferred Payments (Pre Care Act)	Base Interest Rate + 4%
*Deferred Payments (Post Care Act) Changes 1st January and 1st July each year	1.45%
Deferred Payment Set up Cost (not including disbursements i.e. land registry searches)	£600
Payments relating Health & Social Services & Social Security Adjudications Act - HASSASSA (pre 2011)	Base Interest Rate + 2%
Payments relating Health & Social Services & Social Security Adjudications Act - HASSASSA (Pre Care Act)	Base Interest Rate + 4%

*The interest rate for deferred payments is based on the cost of government borrowing. The regulations and statutory guidance set out the maximum interest rate chargeable, which is derived from the 15-year average gilt yield, as set out by the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) twice a year in their Economic and Fiscal Outlook report, to a 0.15% default component.