

**Consultation Report**  
**On**  
**Questionnaire on Adult Social Care**  
**Charging Review**

**Report of:** Asif Amann & Guy Harrison

Transformation Officers

**Date:** 19 September 2016

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## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

- 1.1.1 Following Cabinet approval, on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016, the Personalisation & Assessment Team wrote to all Non-Residential Services Service users asking for views on proposed changes to the way adult social care services are charged. In addition to this there was a Press Release and consultation was on the Internet [www.wakefield.gov.uk/adultsocialcare](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/adultsocialcare) for citizens and providers to respond. A meeting also took place with cares and members of the Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Board.
- 1.1.2 The current Charging Policy for adult social care was agreed in March last year and brings in income of £16.4m per annum. A further review of legislation and guidance has been undertaken to consider proposals which could raise additional income to support the future sustainability of essential social care services.
- 1.1.3 The challenges faced by local authorities to fund social care are significant. In Wakefield the demand is increasing by around 5% every year. Currently in excess of £140m is being spent on social care every year. Even with the 2% precept increase which the Government implemented this year, Wakefield will have a funding gap in excess of £20m in the next five years.
- 1.1.4 The proposed changes include removing the cap on the maximum weekly charge for non-residential services, a charge for commissioning services on behalf of full cost payers and a potential to use the higher rates of Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance (care component) and enhanced Personal Independence Payment when calculating the charges towards social care services. There was also consultation on the implementation of a discretionary Deferred Payments Scheme.

### **1.2 Duty to Consult**

- 1.2.1 Local authorities have a general duty of best value to “make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness” (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2011).
- 1.2.2 As part of deciding how to fulfill their Best Value Duty, local authorities have a duty to consult. The Council must ensure that it adheres to the minimum requirements for consultation.
- 1.2.3 As the proposed changes to Social Care fees would impact across all service user groups, a consultation exercise and an Equality Impact assessment have been undertaken.

The consultation process was agreed by Cabinet.

### Key Principles

1.2.4 It is considered good practice for consultations to be:

- Undertaken at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage;
- Include sufficient reasons for particular proposals to allow those consulted to give intelligent consideration and an intelligent response;
- Include adequate time for this purpose; and
- The product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account when the ultimate decision is taken.

## **2. The Consultation**

### 2.1 Methodology

2.1.1 The recommendation to consult was agreed by Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

2.1.2 The consultation was advertised on the Wakefield Council public website and an online form was also available. The consultation was promoted in electronic communications to the workforce on several occasions. An easy read version was made available and on line.

2.1.3 The consultation was open for a period of six-weeks, running from 8<sup>th</sup> August to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

2.1.4 A cover letter, a six -page information leaflet and the questionnaire were posted on 4<sup>th</sup> August to 2450 people identified as Non-Residential service users in receipt of chargeable social care services. A freepost envelope was enclosed and a telephone number, email and physical address were provided in case people had questions. These documents are available as Appendix B, C and D. A telephone help line was available to assist anyone with completing the survey and to answer any queries.

2.1.5 In line with the Accessible Information Standard it was stated that the above documents were made available in other formats e.g. Easy Read and Braille or audio upon request. A Easy Read version was produced please see Appendix E.

2.1.6 The questionnaire consisted of 5 questions. A variety of open and closed questions were used. Some required the respondent to select from a list of possible answers. A scale was used to rate the extent to which respondents agree / Neither agree or disagree / disagree with the proposals and open questions were used to allow respondents to say how they felt the proposals would impact on service users and citizens of Wakefield, as well as provide any further comments.

## **2.2 Responses**

2.2.1 A total of 407 responses were received; 363 by post and 44 online.

## **3. Analysis of Findings**

### **3.1 Data analysis**

3.1.1 The questionnaire asked a series of questions, some with sub-questions. An analysis of the responses is available below. A summary of the responses is provided later in the report.

3.1.2 The consultation also allowed the respondents to write their views as to how the proposals would impact on them and to write any other comments. Common themes and examples of positive and negative comments are included at the end of the report and in Appendix A.

## **Question 1**

Are you: (please tick the most appropriate to you)

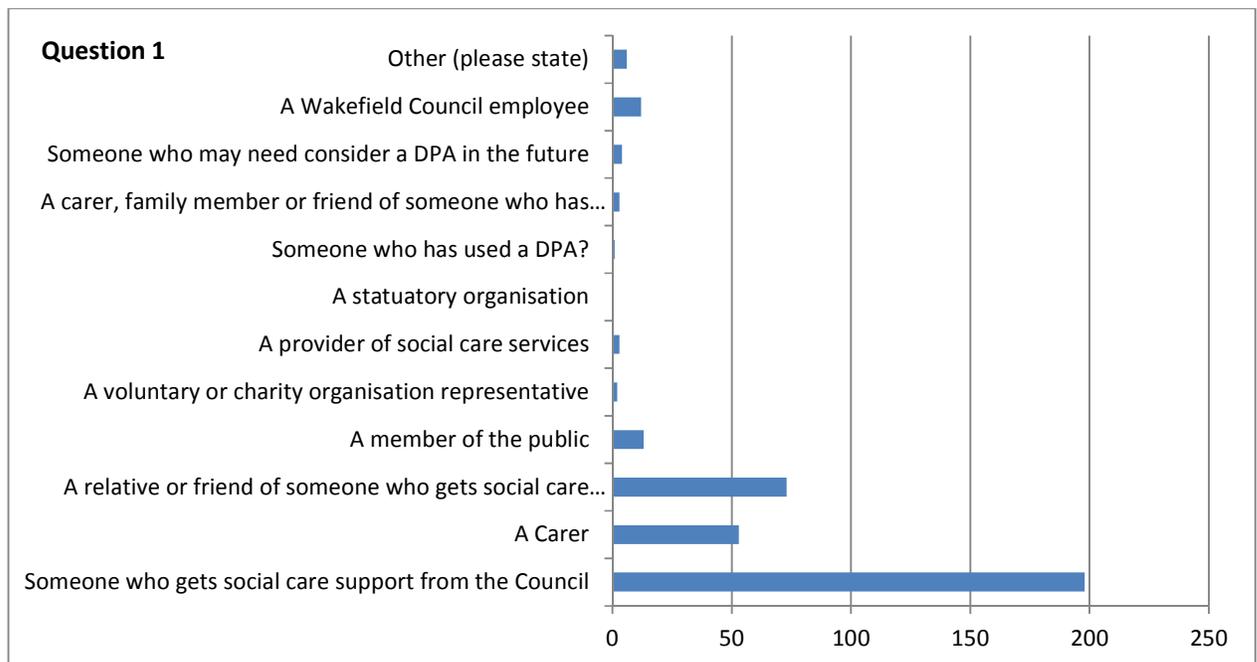
- Someone who gets social care support from the Council
- A Carer
- A relative or friend of someone who gets social care support from the Council
- A member of the public
- A voluntary or charity organisation representative
- A provider of social care services
- A statutory organisation
- Someone who has used a Deferred Payment Agreement?
- A carer, family member or friend of someone who has used a Deferred Payment Agreement?
- Someone who may need to consider a Deferred Payment Agreement in the future
- A Wakefield Council employee
- Other (please state)

Response Summary

368 people identified themselves into one of the categories.

- 198 (54%) described themselves as “Someone who gets social care support from the Council”
- 73 (20%) described themselves as “A relative or friend of someone who gets social care support from the Council”
- 53 (14%) described themselves as “A Carer”
- 13 (3.5%) described themselves as “A member of the public”
- 12 (3.5%) described themselves as “A Wakefield Council employee”
- 6 (2%) described themselves as “Other”
- 4 (1%) people described themselves as “Someone who may need to consider a Deferred Payment Agreement in the future”
- 3 (1%) respondent described themselves as “A provider of social care services”
- 3 (1%) people described themselves as “A carer, family member or friend of someone who has used a Deferred Payment Agreement”
- 2 respondents described themselves as “A voluntary or charity organisation representative”
- 1 respondent described him/herself as “Someone who has used a DPA”
- 39 did not answer the question.

Chart



## Question 2

If you are a service user, parent or carer, do you currently: (please tick one that applies to you)

- Pay towards your care services or support
- Do not pay
- Don't know

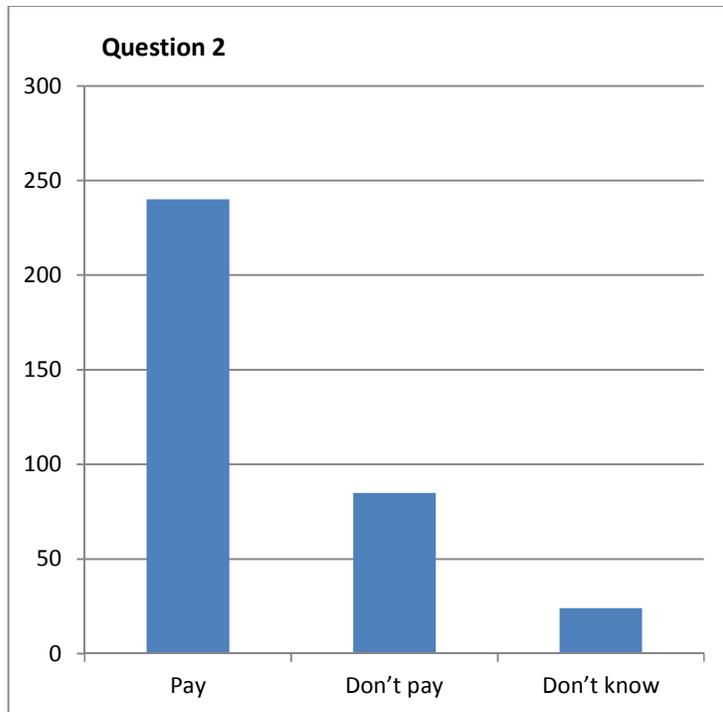
  
  

### Response Summary

There were 349 responses, of which

- 240 (69%) paid towards care and/or support
- 85 (24%) did not pay
- 24 (7%) did not know whether they paid or not

### Chart



### Question 3

There were five parts to Q3; and the choice of response as either “Agree”, “Neither agree or disagree” or “Disagree”

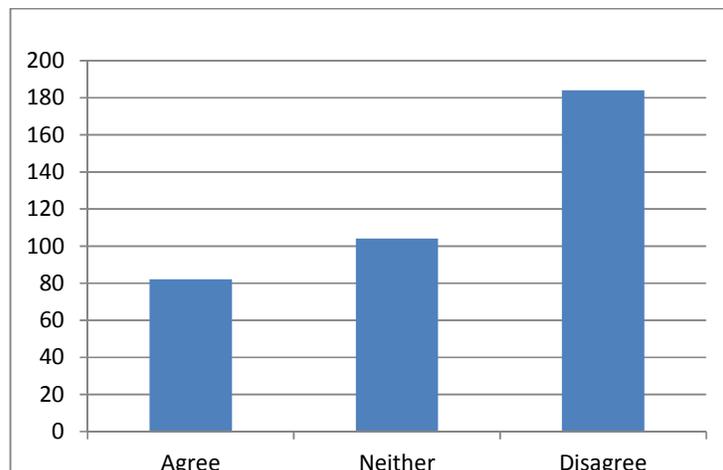
Number	Proposals
Q 3.1	Include the high rate of Attendance Allowance in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services (services in the community).
Q 3.2	Include the enhanced daily living care component of Personal Independence Payments in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services
Q 3.3	Include the high rate of Disability Living Allowance in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services
Q 3.4	Remove the maximum weekly charge (currently £465 per week) for Non Residential Services.
Q 3.5	Charge people a fee for arranging services on their behalf where they pay for the full cost of services.

#### Q 3.1 Response Summary

Include the high rate of Attendance Allowance in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services (services in the community). There were 370 responses, of which

- 184 (50%) disagreed with the proposal
- 186 (50%) agreed or neither agreed or disagreed with the proposal

#### Chart

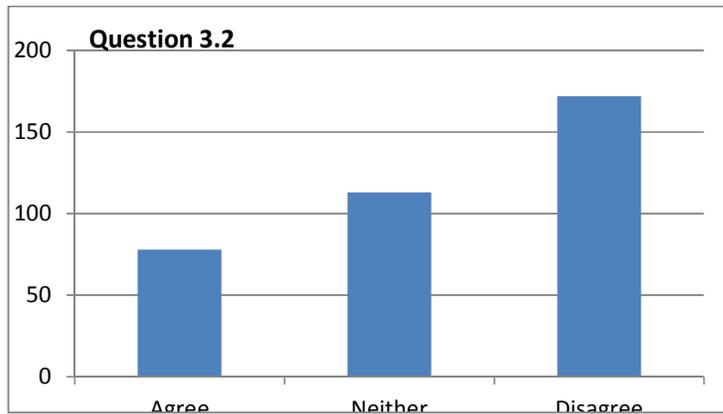


### **Q 3.2 Response Summary**

Include the enhanced daily living care component of Personal Independence Payments in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services. There were 363 responses, of which

- 172 (47%) disagreed with the proposal
- 191 (53%) either agreed or neither agreed or disagreed with the proposal

#### **Chart**

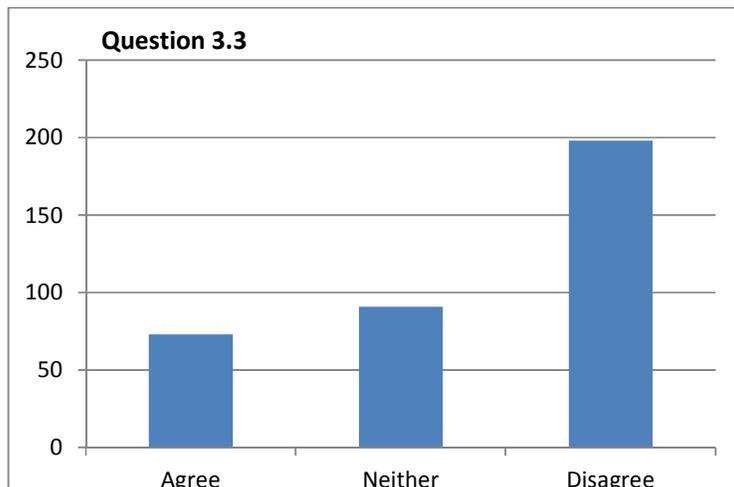


### **Q 3.3 Response Summary**

Include the high rate of Disability Living Allowance in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services. There were 362 responses, of which

- 198 (55%) disagreed with the proposal
- 164 (45%) either agreed or neither agreed or disagreed with the proposal

#### **Chart**

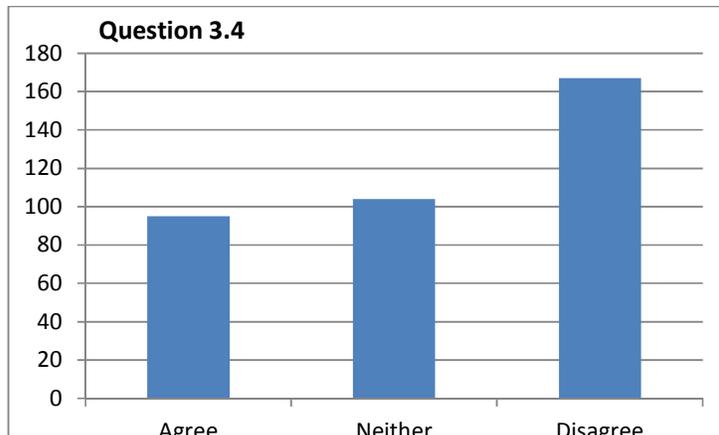


### **Q 3.4 Response Summary**

Remove the maximum weekly charge (currently £465 per week) for Non Residential Services. There were 366 responses, of which

- 167 (46%) disagreed with the proposal
- 199 (54%) either agreed or neither agreed or disagreed with the proposal

#### **Chart**

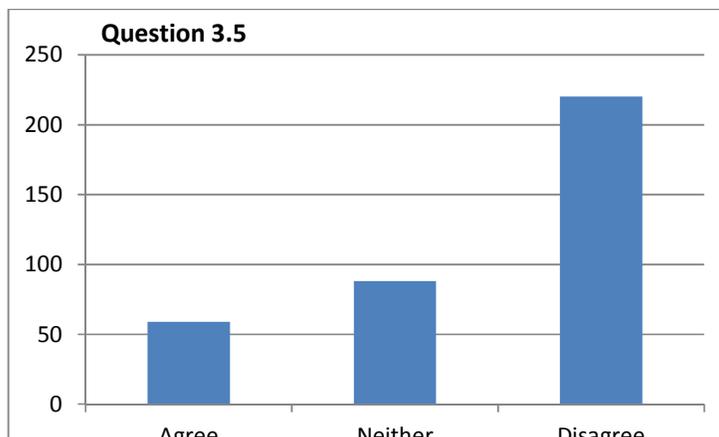


### **Q 3.5 Response Summary**

Charge people a fee for arranging services on their behalf where they pay for the full cost of services. There were 367 responses, of which

- 220 (60%) disagreed with the proposal
- 147 (40%) either agreed or neither agreed or disagreed with the proposal

#### **Chart**



## Question 4

Should the Council extend the Deferred Payment Scheme and have a discretionary scheme under the Care Act and Localism Act? (please tick one)

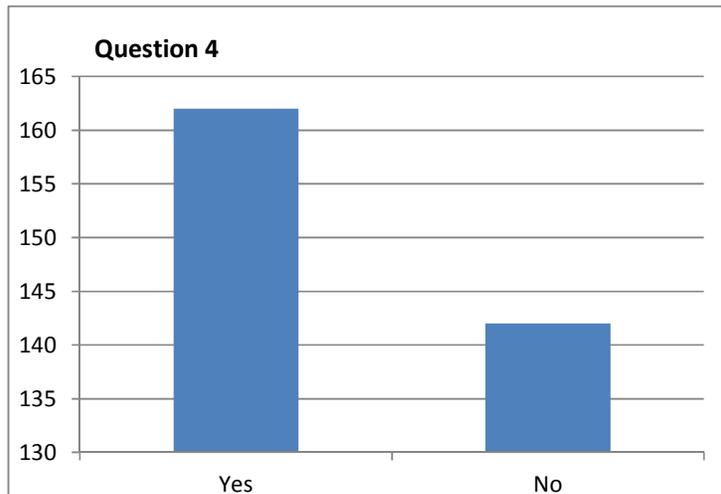
- Yes
- No

### Response Summary

There were 304 responses, of which

- 162 (53%) replied “Yes”
- 142 (47%) replied “No”

### Chart



### Question 4.1

If you answered “Yes” to question 4, which option would you choose? (Please tick one):

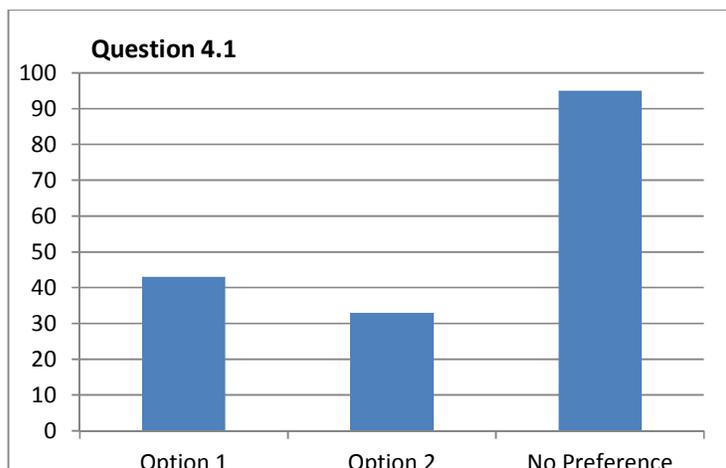
- Option 1
- Option 2
- No preference

### Q 4.1 Response Summary

There were 171 responses, of which

- 95 (56%) expressed no preference
- 43 (25%) chose “Option 1”
- 20 (19%) chose “Option 2”

## Chart



## 4. Overall summary

### 4.1 Statistical summary

Generally the responses for the questions were a 50/50 split in that almost 50% disagreed with the other 50% either disagreeing or neither agreeing or disagreeing. The proposal with the highest numbers of disagreement was question 3.5 to charge people a fee for arranging services. Slightly more people were in favour of extending the Deferred Payment Scheme with no preference for which option.

Question	Summary of replies
Question 2	69% of the 349 responders that answered this question said they paid towards their care, 24% did not pay, whilst 7% were not sure whether they paid or not. Therefore it can be presumed that the issues mattered to the respondents that payed towards their care.
Question 3.1	50% disagreed with the proposal to include <b>higher rate Attendance Allowance</b> in the financial assessment, whilst 50% either agreed or neither agreed nor disagreed.
Question 3.2	47% disagreed with the proposal to include the <b>Daily Living Care</b> component of PIP in the financial assessment. 53% either agreed or neither agreed nor disagreed.
Question 3.3	55% disagreed with the proposal to include <b>high rate of DLA</b> component in the financial assessment. 45% either agreed or neither agreed nor disagreed.

Question 3.4	46% disagreed with the proposal to <b>remove the maximum weekly charge</b> (£465) for non-residential services. 54% either agreed or neither agreed nor disagreed.
Question 3.5	60% disagreed with the proposal to <b>charge people a fee for arranging services</b> on their behalf where they pay for the full cost of services. 40% either agreed or neither agreed nor disagreed.
Question 4	There was a close result to whether the Council should <b>extend the Deferred Payment Scheme</b> . 53% said “Yes”, 47% said “No”.
Question 4.1	The number of people answering this part of the question was low (171 out of 407 respondents). Secondly, of those that responded 56% indicated <b>no</b> preference from the two options. This could indicate that a lot of people did not fully understand the question/options. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 56% of the 171 who responded to Q4 said they had no preferred option.</li> <li>• 25% preferred Option 1</li> <li>• 19% preferred Option 2.</li> </ul>

#### **4.2 Service User Comments**

People were asked to comment on any impact the proposals may have or to share any other comments they may wish to make. A total of 150 people made comments. Many comments were personal to the respondent’s circumstances. A general summary of these can be found below. A more in-depth description is provided as Appendices A.

Main comments from those who agreed to the proposals included:

- That if people are able to pay more towards their care then they should
- The proposals would help the council to continue to provide care
- The proposals would make things more equitable

Main concerns of the impacts of the proposals included:

- Being financially worse off
- Anxiety over being able to still afford to pay for their care
- Having to stop their services if cannot afford to pay
- Reduced quality of life and loss of independence
- Changes may result in having to go into residential care
- Not clearly understand the proposals in order to make a decision

Some respondents also commented that as they do not pay towards their care that there would be no impact to them, while others felt it not appropriate to comment on the proposals as not affected. This could explain the neither disagree/agree choices.

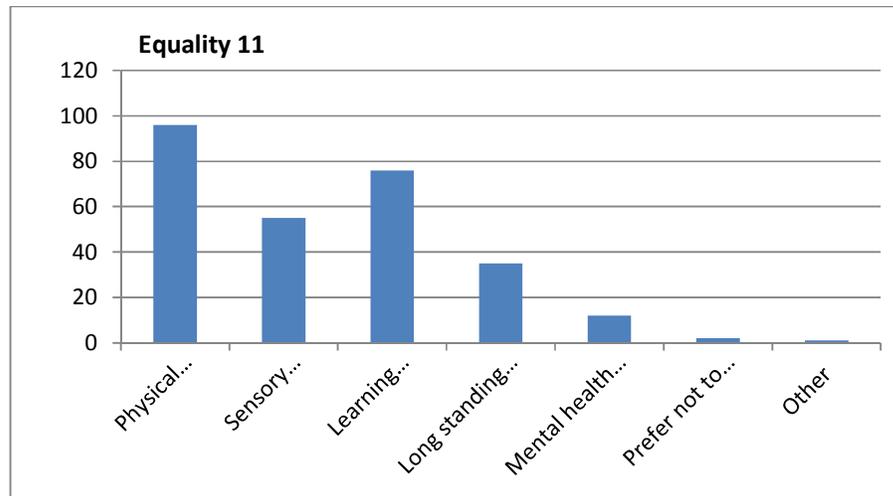
### **4.3 About You Section**

#### Response Summary

Of the 407 respondents 277 (68%) disclosed their main impairment. The results were as follows

<b>Impairment</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Physical impairment	96	35
Sensory impairment	55	20
Learning disability	76	27
Long standing illness	35	13
Mental health condition	12	4
Prefer not to say	2	0.5
Other	1	0.5
	<b>277</b>	

#### Chart



#### **Ethnicity Breakdown**

Of the 407 respondents 366 disclosed their ethnicity. The results were as follows

<b>Ethnicity</b>	
Black African	1
Pakistani	2
White British	363

Comments by theme (**a full list of comments can be provided on request**)

**General comments**

“It will impact greatly if as proposed you intend to take more from me. I think the Council should stand up and tell the relative authorities to make those responsible for today’s austerity programme i.e. the bankers and the super-rich to pay their dues. Then there wouldn’t be a need to make those least able to again pick up the tab!”

“It would seem like to me, you are asking turkeys to vote for Christmas.”

“It’s a way of making people pay that has paid into council and NHS with taxes all their lives pay again”

“Why is always the old and needy have to pay for your cuts to make up the loss? Why not charge extra council tax to them who can afford it? Like for houses that are over £150,000”

“As I see it, the Council wish to extract as much money as they can from service users. The service users on the other hand wish to hold on to as much money as they can in a difficult financial world. As turkeys don't vote for Christmas any sensible service user would disagree with the Council's proposal as I have done.”

“Why not use some of the City’s reserves (ratepayers) to meet some of these costs? There for a rainy day! Couldn’t rain much harder.”

**Neutral**

“I think it is impossible to say until these proposals are actually up and running, things can turn out very different??”

“As I don't have to contribute to the cost of my care I don't think I should express a view which would affect the contribution costs of others.”

“Those who can afford for care should contribute accordingly - those that cannot (me) should not be penalised.”

“I understand money is tight and care budget is getting smaller from government, we must look after the most needy. Where possible have people contribute if they have the money to do so. Otherwise we let people who are most vulnerable down.”

**Positive comments**

“I think that anyone who is able to pay should be made to pay something towards their care.”

“Not really sure, I expect it will mean paying more, but if I can afford to, I will.”

“May increase our payments into the personal budget.”

“If this means that the budget available can be shared more equitably between

those able to afford your services and those less able to afford your services, then I am all for it.”

“Hopefully it will enable the council to continue to provide the level of care and support allowing people to stay living at home. I think it is fair to include enhanced components of allowance in financial assessments.”

### **Other Comments**

“Devastating don't know how I can keep my care ongoing with this happening. I do not agree with this at all. I need my care. Unless they are willing to put my benefits up to compensate for this I don't know what I will do.”

“Any increase in the charges I have to pay will have a dramatic effect on my standard of living and drastically reduce the amount of income left out of my pension to pay for my other commitments and needs”

“It is hard looking after a loved one at home rather than putting them in a care home. Further financial contributions put another stress factor into lives that are already under the cosh of poor health.”

“It could mean I my mum pays more for her care, she is 90 lives alone and is very frail this will cause her to panic about making ends meet. “

“Since receiving care my quality of life has become meaningful. I do not have any savings and limited income and not think I could afford additional costs and still benefit from the care I need.”

“If there is a price increase in her care, we will have to look elsewhere to meet her needs.”

“If the council was to include my DLA, I wouldn't be able to manage, because I need my DLA to get from A to B i.e. taxis hospitals, appointments.”

“If dad's full Attendance Allowance is included this will have an impact as to whether we could afford to stay at home or move to residential services.”

“My relative has multiple and complex health and social care needs. Any reduction in the payments made towards care will seriously impact on her ability to remain in the community and her quality of life and wellbeing.”

“If dad's full Attendance Allowance is included this will have an impact as to whether we could afford to stay at home or move to residential services.”

“This form is very confusing and the leaflet to give me information left me more confused. Explain the problems more clearly in future please.”

“I am worried that if the higher rate of AA is included in the financial assessment for charging, mum would not have enough money to meet her needs to keep her comfortable.”

“I am concerned my daughter does not get enough DLA to meet her needs and the proposals went ahead then financially she would not benefit from increases.”

“I don't know what impact the proposals will have on me. I think it is an excuse just to put the charges up as my DLA did not alter this year but my care charges went up by 42%. As my DLA just pays for my care meals on wheels and chiropody any higher charges would leave me short so please leave well alone.”

### **3.4 Remove the maximum weekly charge (currently £465)**

“To remove the maximum weekly contribution would be discriminatory between service users. It would also make affording appropriate care much harder and so it

would lead to a drop in the level of care and support that is needed by my relative/dependant.”

“I guess it will inevitably mean increased costs for my mother’s care. The maximum of £465 is quite high enough without removing the limit.”

### **3.5 Charge for arranging services**

“If people are paying full amount for their services with no financial support from the council, it would be unfair to charge them for arranging services.”

“Do not agree to paying a recurring fee for arranging services as this is usually a one off service.”

“If people are charged to help provide/set up care, they may prefer to do this independently, and not find adequate care / no care as a result. this would then have an impact on NHS services and people being admitted into hospital 'not coping at home', we already have numerous admissions due to this, most of which are entirely unnecessary and a drain on NHS resources.”

### **4. Deferred Payment Scheme**

“The impact would mean although my mum has already sold her house to pay for her care she would have to pay even more if the maximum contribution limit is lifted. It looks as if you want all self-funders to pay more to help subsidise the people who never saved towards their retirement. Shouldn’t my mum receive some help too? It’s disgraceful.”

Corporate Director: Andrew  
Balchin

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Town hall

Wood Street

Wakefield WF1 2HQ

T 01924 306090;

E [abalchin@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:abalchin@wakefield.gov.uk)

Typetalk calls welcome

Our ref: <ID>

Date (to add)

<Address>

Dear <SU or Representative>

### **Adult Social Care Charging Review**

Wakefield Council currently has a charging policy in place for individuals who receive social care services and/or support in the community and residential care. These charges are reviewed regularly and a financial assessment review takes place on an annual basis.

We would like to hear your views on proposals to make some changes to charges for adult social care services. The information document enclosed explains the areas we are considering. Before you complete the questionnaire (also enclosed) please read the information we have provided.

The consultation runs for six weeks and starts on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 and ends on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

Your views are really important to us and we would like you to fill in the questionnaire and return it to us in the prepaid envelope provided.

If you have any questions about this consultation, need help to take part, or you need a copy of the information in a different format or another language, please get in touch with us by:

**Email:** [personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk)

**In Writing:** Prepaid envelope enclosed

**Telephone:** 01924 307406

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Balchin

Corporate Director – Adults Health & Communities

## **Information Leaflet on Adult Social Care Charging Review**

There have been big reductions in Government funding for all Councils and it is expected that these will continue.

All Councils decide what to charge people for their social care services but they have to follow the Government's rules on how to do this. These changed in April, 2015 and there are some things in our charging policy which means that people pay less towards the cost of some services than in other similar council areas. This means that we have less money to spend on services.

Wakefield Council is thinking about changing some of the ways we charge people for adult social care services that support people to live in the community and we would like to hear your views before any decisions are made.

We want to continue to provide services to the most vulnerable in the community to help people to stay living safely in their own home. Any extra income we may get from any changes will help protect adult social care services from the effects of Government funding reductions.

This information explains the changes we are thinking about making and how they may affect you.

There is a lot of information in this leaflet so we can give you examples and explain things to you.

If you would prefer to complete the feedback on a computer, then please go to the Council's website [www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk)

You can complete the feedback form on the website or download it and email it to:  
**personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk**

**The consultation runs for six weeks and starts on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 and ends on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.**

**Your views are important to us and we would like you to fill in the questionnaire and send it back to us. If you require this in another format, e.g. Braille, audio or easy read please let us know.**

If you have any questions about this or need help then please get in touch with us by:

**Email:** [personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk)

**Writing:** Wakefield Council, ASC Consultation, County Hall Bond Street Wakefield WF1 2QW

**Telephone:** Personalisation & Assessment Team on 01924 307406

**The phone lines may be busy in the first few days so please try again later.**

**Which services may be affected by the possible changes?**

The services affected by potential charging changes are Non Residential Services (NRS), also known as services in the community

We are thinking about making four changes to this:

1. Changing the way that we work out how much to charge people towards the cost of their NRS
2. Removing the maximum weekly contribution limit (the most someone will pay) for charges towards the cost of NRS
3. Charging people who are assessed as being required to pay the full cost for their NRS where they have asked the Council to arrange services/care for them
4. Extending the Deferred Payment Scheme (DPS)

**What is the cost for Non Residential Services (NRS) and how do people pay for them?**

Everyone who is in receipt of NRS has an amount of funding allocated to them for their services or support. This funding is called a Personal Budget (PB). They also have a financial assessment to work out how much they can afford to pay towards their PB for their NRS.

If the financial assessment shows that a person can afford to make a contribution towards their PB (cost of care services) they will only pay the lower of the PB or maximum financial assessment contribution.

Example: If someone has a financial assessment which says they can pay £35 per week and their Personal Budget (cost of care services) is £60 per week, they will be asked to pay £35 per week.

**The Council will never ask someone to pay more than the cost of care services or their maximum weekly financial assessment contribution (whichever is the lowest).**

**What is the most (maximum weekly contribution limit) someone pays for services in the community?**

The current limit on the amount we ask anyone to pay towards their charges for NRS is £465 per week. This is called the maximum weekly contribution.

Even if services are more than £465 per week no one currently pays above this amount even if the cost of care is more than this.

If the Council removes this maximum weekly contribution limit for those who can afford to pay more this would assist the Council to provide the level of care and support that allows people to stay living at home.

Current Example: If someone has a financial assessment which says they can pay the full amount per week for the cost of their services and their Personal Budget (cost of care services) is £520 per week, they will only pay £465 per week.

Example for proposed change: If someone has a financial assessment which says they can pay the full amount for the cost of their services and their Personal Budget is £520 per week, they will be asked to pay £520 per week instead of the current maximum weekly contribution limit of £465 per week.

**Only people who can afford to pay the current maximum weekly contribution limit of £465 per week for their services will be affected by this.**

### **What is the charge for people who can afford to pay for all their services but choose for the Council to do this for them?**

The Council does not currently charge people for arranging their services for them.

Legislation set out in The Care Act, 2014 allows a Council to make a charge for arranging services to meet their needs.

By charging service users in this way it will assist the Council to provide the level of care and support that allows people to stay living at home.

**This only applies to people where the Council has undertaken a financial assessment and they can afford to pay the full amount for the cost of their services (Personal Budget) and there is no financial support from the Council.**

### **What is a Deferred Payment Scheme (DPS)?**

A DPS is a way to help people pay for their care without the need to sell their property during their lifetime.

The Council already has a mandatory DPS for people who are in permanent residential care where they meet the set criteria set out in legislation.

A person who owns a property which is included in the financial assessment contribution can apply to the Council for a Deferred Payment Agreement (DPA).

The Council can put a legal charge against the property and this will allow the person to borrow money from the Council to pay the care home fees.

A DPA has to be signed by the person or their legal representative. Costs to set this up and interest are also added to the money the person borrows.

### **Why are we consulting on the DPS?**

The law allows the Council to implement a discretionary DPS for those in care homes, supported living and extra care if the following criteria are met. This is known as the 'discretionary criteria' (Option 1):

- a) Anyone whose needs are to be met by the provision of care in a care home or a supported living (including Extra Care) placement;
- b) Adequate security can be provided by way of a legal charge or mortgage or other adequate security; and
- c) The person agrees to the terms and conditions of the DPA.

The Council would like to implement a discretionary DPS because it could assist people who have care charges which need to be met from including the value of their property. However, we would like to insist on the following eligibility criteria being met. This is known as the **‘mandatory criteria’ (Option 2)**:

- a) Anyone, whose needs are being met by the provision of care in a care home, supported living or extra care. This is determined when someone is assessed as having eligible social care needs.; and
- b) Who has less than £23,250 in assets (capital, savings, shares, bonds) excluding the value of their property; and
- c) Anyone whose legal and beneficial interest in their property is not disregarded for the purposes of the Council’s financial assessment; and
- d) Adequate security can be provided by way of a charge by legal mortgage; and
- e) The person agrees to the terms and conditions of the DPA.
- f) The person must be actively trying to sell the property
- g) The person must pay costs, set up charges and legal fees in line with the Council’s existing mandatory scheme

The Council also has powers under the Localism Act to implement a discretionary DPS for those receiving NRS in their own homes when they own a property which is not their main home. The Council would like to do this because it could assist people who have care charges which need to be met from including the value of the property. The Council would like to implement the mandatory eligibility criteria as set out above known as **Option 2**.

**Pros and Cons of Option 1 (‘discretionary criteria’) & Option 2 (‘mandatory criteria’)**

Option	Pros	Cons
1	<p>The person can defer the debt for care charges against an asset of value.</p> <p>By supporting people in supported living in this way it can avoid their need for other kinds of care services</p>	<p>You may not be the legal or beneficial owner so someone else may be agreeing to a charge against their property or asset.</p> <p>You may not be able to claim any means tested benefits if it is your asset and you are not selling it.</p> <p>The council may not have the security of placing a legal charge on the asset which increases the risk of lending public money.</p> <p>There may be less money available to</p>

		lend to people who need to use it for its main purpose which is to help persons fund residential care.
2	<p>The person can defer the debt for care charges against the property.</p> <p>By supporting people in supported living in this way it can avoid their need for other kinds of care services</p> <p>A legal charge can be placed on the property thereby permitting the Council to secure its debt. This lowers the risk of lending public money.</p> <p>If you are actively selling your property and entitled to means tested benefits these can be applied for which means you could have more income.</p>	<p>You have to be actively selling the property.</p> <p>There may be less money available to lend to people who need to use it for its main purpose which is to help persons fund residential care.</p> <p>The effect of implementing the mandatory criteria for the discretionary scheme does not assist those who need residential care but who do not have a legal or beneficial interest in a property upon which a legal charge can be placed.</p>

## **Disability Benefits**

### **What we currently include as income:**

For people who have day time care needs who receive £82.30 per week:

- Disability Living Allowance (care component)
- Attendance Allowance or Personal Independence Payments (daily living component)

We only include £55.10 of this income with other income to work out what someone can afford to pay towards their Personal Budget (PB) (cost of care services).

For people who have night time care needs and/or who are in supported living and extra care who receive Disability Living Allowance (care component), Attendance Allowance or Personal Independence Payments (daily living component) of £82.30 per week, the full amount (£82.30) is included with other income to work out what someone could afford to pay towards their PB.

### **What we are thinking of including and what does this mean?**

For people who have day time care needs who receive £82.30 per week for:

- Disability Living Allowance (care component)
- Attendance Allowance or Personal Independence Payments (daily living component)

We are thinking of including the full amount of £82.30 with other income to work out what someone could afford to pay for their services.

This means that the financial assessment contribution will increase by up to £27 per week.

**There will be no change for people who have night time care needs or are in supported living or extra care where we already take the full amount in to account.**

If the Council includes this it will mean that we can use the money to assist us to continue to provide services to the most vulnerable.

If we do not look at getting more money from charging those people who can afford to pay more we may have to reduce what we spend on adult social care services to deal with the reductions in government funding.

**Your views are important to us and we would like you to fill in the questionnaire and send it back to us in the prepaid envelope provided or email it to:  
[personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk)**

## Questionnaire on Adult Social Care Charging Review

### Your views

Please read the information page carefully before answering the following questions.

### Questions

1. Are you: (please tick most appropriate to you)

- Someone who gets social care support from the Council
  - A Carer
  - A relative or friend of someone who gets social care support from the Council
  - A member of the public
  - A voluntary or charity organisation representative
  - A provider of social care services
  - A statutory organisation
  - Someone who has used a DPA?
  - A carer, family member or friend of someone who has used a DPA?
  - Someone who may need to consider a DPA in the future
  - A Wakefield Council employee
  - Other (please state)
- 

2. If you are a service user, parent or carer, do you currently: (please tick one that applies to you)

- Pay towards your care services or support
- Do not pay
- Don't know

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these proposals (please tick)?

Proposal	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree
Include the high rate of Attendance Allowance (AA) in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services (NRS) (services in the			

community).			
Include the enhanced daily living care component of Personal Independence Payments (PIP) in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services.			
Include the high rate of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in the financial assessment for charging for all Non Residential Services.			
Remove the maximum weekly charge (currently £465 per week) for Non Residential Services.			
Charge people a fee for arranging services on their behalf where they pay for the full cost of services.			

**4. Should the Council extend the Deferred Payment Scheme and have a discretionary scheme under the Care Act and Localism Act (please tick one)?**

- Yes
- No

**If you answered Yes above which option would you choose (please tick):**

- Option 1
- Option 2
- No preference

**5. What impact do these proposals mean for you as a service user, citizen or provider in the Wakefield District? Please summarise your views in the box below.**

**6. Any other comments you may wish to make.**

**Please post your comments back to: Wakefield Council, ASC Consultation, County Hall Bond Street Wakefield WF1 2QW in the prepaid envelope provided.**

Or complete online at: [www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk)

Or email to: [personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:personalisationteam@wakefield.gov.uk)

**CLOSING DATE: 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2016**

## **About you – Individuals**

**We ask you these questions as we want to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and equally and that no one gets left out. We will not share the information you give us with anyone else. We will only use it to help us make decisions.**

**If you would prefer not to answer these questions, you do not have to.**

**1. Are you? (please tick one):**

- Male
- Female

**2. How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_**

**3. What is your postcode? \_\_\_\_\_**

**4. To which of these ethnic groups do you feel you belong (based on census):**

**a) White:**

- British
- Irish
- Other\* - please state \_\_\_\_\_

**b) Mixed:**

- White & Black Caribbean
- White and Black African
- White and Asian
- Mixed other\* - please state \_\_\_\_\_

**c) Chinese:**

- Chinese
- Chinese British

**d) Asian or Asian British:**

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Any other Asian background

**e) Black or Black British:**

- Caribbean
- African
- Any other black background

**f) Would you describe yourself as:**

- Traveller
- Gypsy

**If your ethnic group is not specified, please describe your group here:**

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The Equality Act describes a person as disabled if they have a longstanding physical or mental condition that has lasted or is likely to last at least 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

**5. Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act? (please tick one)**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

**6. If you answered yes to Question 5, please tell us the type of impairment that applies (please tick):**

- Physical impairment
- Sensory impairment (hearing and sight)
- Learning Disability
- Long standing illness or health condition
- Mental health Condition
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Do you regard yourself as belonging to a particular religion or belief?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

**8. If you answered Yes to question 7 which one? (please tick one)**

- Christian
- Hindu
- Buddhist
- Jewish
- Muslim

- Sikh
- Any other religion (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Are you (please tick one):**

- Bi/Bisexual
- Gay woman/Lesbian
- Gay Man
- Heterosexual
- Other
- Prefer not to say

**10. Are you married or in a civil partnership? (please tick one)**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

**Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.**

**Please return this with your questionnaire.**