

Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **Public Sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people's needs. The Council's Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the Council to better understand the potential impact of the budget proposals and consider mitigating action.

| Outcome | People in Southampton live safe, healthy, | |
|----------------|--|--|
| | independent lives | |
| Code | SHIL 4 (i) | |
| Name or Brief | Removing a subsidy from people who can afford to | |
| Description of | pay for their own care following a means test. | |
| Proposal | | |

Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)

This proposal will affect people receiving home care services who are financially assessed as having over £23,250 in capital (money in bank accounts, building societies, Premium Bonds, shares and second properties) - who are not charged an arrangement fee to cover the cost of the Council arranging their care.

This currently applies to 122 people. The proposal is to charge £632 in the first year and then £520 per year in subsequent years. The charges will also apply to new clients.

Summary of Impact and Issues

Individuals with over £23,250 in capital, will be charged an arrangement fee for the first time. People may choose to enter into a contract with a home care provider privately, but would typically pay a higher hourly rate.

This was subject to a separate consultation carried out under the Care Act 2014 that concluded in April 2016, to which no significant issues or impacts were raised.

| Potential Positive Impacts |
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| None. | |
|---------------|---|
| Responsible | Liz Slater – Assessment, Support Planning and |
| Service Leads | Options |
| | Sharon Stewart – Prioritisation, Safeguarding & Initial |
| | Response |
| Date | 13 October 2016 |

| Approved by Senior | Paul Juan –Acting Service Director, Adults, Housing and Communities |
|--------------------|---|
| Manager | |
| Date | 14 October 2016 |

Potential Impact

| Impact | Details of Impact | Possible Solutions & |
|--|--|--|
| Assessment | | Mitigating Actions |
| Age | There are a higher number of people aged over 65 who would be impacted by this proposal. Of the 122 people currently identified, 109 people are aged over 65 and 13 people are aged between 18-64 have been identified who would be affected. | Financial assessment carried out to confirm that person can afford to pay. Clients have the option of making the arrangements themselves with information on care agencies that we would provide. For those people who are unable to make a decision because they lack mental capacity, the council could offer Appointeeship or Deputyship Services to help them manage their finances. |
| Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil | There is higher use of home care services by disabled people. Of the 122 people currently identified, here are 7 people with a learning disability, 13 people with a mental health need and 102 with a physical disability who would be affected. No identified negative impacts. | Not required. N/A N/A |
| Partnership | | |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | No identified negative | N/A Page 2 of 3 |

| | impacts. | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Race | No identified negative impacts. | N/A |
| Religion or Belief | No identified negative impacts. | N/A |
| Sex | There are more women than men who will be impacted by this proposal. Of the 122 people currently identified, there are 93 women and 29 men who would be affected. | Financial assessment carried out to confirm that person can afford to pay. Clients have the option of making the arrangements themselves with information on care agencies that we would provide. |
| Sexual Orientation | No identified negative impacts. | N/A |
| Community Safety | No identified negative impacts. | N/A |
| Poverty | No identified negative impacts. | N/A |
| Other Significant Impacts | No identified negative impacts. | N/A |