



Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Free Parking Permits for Personal Assistants
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Jason Frost, Cabinet member for Health and Adult Care Services
SLT Lead:	Barbara Nicholls, Director for Adult Services
Report Author and contact details:	Megan Enevoldson, Commissioner & Project Manager T: 01708 433070 megan.enevoldson@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	The Council's market shaping and commissioning duties under the Care Act 2014 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting quality services, including through workforce development and remuneration and ensure appropriately resourced care and support - Supporting sustainability
Financial summary:	It is expected that there will be an annual cost of up to £2,700 to the Adult Social Care budget, managed by the Joint Commissioning Unit.
Relevant OSC:	Individuals
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	Yes, it is a non-key decision by a member of staff

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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Places making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Council implements free parking permits and renewals for Personal Assistants who are accredited by the Council and are working with Havering residents in receipt of a Direct Payment from Adult Social Care and live in restricted parking zones.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

3.3 Powers of Members of the Senior Leadership Team

Financial responsibilities

(a) To incur expenditure within the revenue and capital budgets for their allocated portfolio as approved by the Council, or as otherwise approved, subject to any variation permitted by the Council's contract and financial procedure rules.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

1. Background

Currently the Council offers parking permits to allow health and homecare professional businesses or charities to park in resident permit bays and meter bays when visiting the people they support at a cost of £60 per permit per annum.

The Council also offers parking permits to domestic carers, who are usually a family member or friend, who need to care for someone living in a controlled parking zone at a cost of £40 per annum per permit. This permit is not for businesses or charities.

Personal Assistants (PAs) provide care and support to people in the community who are in receipt of a direct payment from Adult Social Care. This is a valued service, supporting some of Havering's most vulnerable residents. PAs also require parking permits in order to provide care to those who they support at home. Because PAs are self-employed and receive a low rate of pay this is a big cost pressure. The alternative is for the person supported by the PA to pay for the permit from their personal budget. If the personal budget is small this can be a substantial cost. This cost ultimately comes back to the Council as the personal budget will need to cover this and could result in multiple parking permits being purchased for the same PA.

2. Proposal

It is recommended that the Council implement free parking permits and renewals to PAs who are accredited by the Council and are verified as working in restricted parking areas and alternative travel options are not suitable. This would ensure free parking permits are available to PAs who require one in order to better equip them to

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provide care to vulnerable residents and to feel motivated and valued. It would also support the financial sustainability of PAs working in Havering and support the Council in its ambition to increase the number of PAs to enable more choice and control for residents over the care and support they receive.

The Council currently charges £25.50 to replace a lost parking permit or to amend a permit when there has been a change in vehicle/address. It is proposed that PAs would pay this fee if the circumstances arose.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Do nothing and require PAs to pay for parking permits: This option was rejected due to the additional cost pressure paying for parking permits places on PAs and risks PAs leaving the market in Havering. This would not be in line with the Council's ambition to grow and develop the PA market.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

This proposal has been developed in response to feedback from accredited PAs working in Havering.

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Megan Enevoldson

Designation: Commissioner & Project Manager

Signature:



Date: 04.09.2019

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Authority has a duty under the Care Act to make direct payments to service users who request these and are able to manage them. The amount of the direct payment should be sufficient for the service user to purchase relevant services directly.

Provided the equality issues set out below are properly considered there appears to be no legal risk in adopting this proposal.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

There are currently 139 PAs and 25 of them have raised concerns regarding parking issues. These 25 would be applying for permits at a cost of £60 each per annum. The intention is for this new policy to be implemented in October which would incur a part year cost of £750 for 2019/20 and a full year cost of £1,500 for 2020/21. This will be funded from A34060 Adult Community Commissioning by a recharge from Parking Services.

It is possible that additional existing PAs may request a permit when the new policy is launched, however there will be tight controls over who will be receiving permits but the cost could potentially be higher but the numbers are unknown at present.

If the number of PAs rose by 88.6% in line with the increase seen for 2018/19 reaching a total of 248 PAs we would expect approximately 45 PAs to require a permit resulting in an annual cost of £2,700 the Adult Social Care budget. This assumption has been made on the basis that many PAs walk, use public transport or are not working with service users living in restricted parking zones.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

There are no HR implications or risks anticipated to the Council as Personal Assistant are not employees of the Council and are employed directly by the Service User or are self-employed.

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;

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- foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants. It is not anticipated that there will be any negative impacts arising from this proposal to current and future users of this service.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Delete as applicable

~~Proposal NOT agreed because~~

Details of decision maker

Signed



Name: Barbara Nicholls

Cabinet Portfolio held:

CMT Member title: Director of Adult Social Care & Health

Head of Service title

Other manager title:

Date: 4th September 2019

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Andrew Beesley, Committee Administration & Interim Member Support Manager in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on 5/9/19

Signed A-M

