



## INDIVIDUALS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2 AUGUST 2012

**Subject Heading:**

Review of Fairer Charging Policy– call in of Executive Decision

**CMT Lead:**

Lorna Payne  
Group Director – Adults and Health  
01708 433203

**Report Author and contact details:**

Wendy Gough  
Committee Officer  
Committee Administration  
01708 432441

**Policy context:**

Proposed amendments to the current Fairer Charging policy affecting adult social services users.

In accordance with paragraph 17 of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Rules, a requisition signed by two Members representing more than one Group (Councillors Keith Darvill and Clarence Barrett) has called in the decision of the Cabinet Member dated 11 July 2012. The text of the requisition appears at the end of this report:

### **CABINET DECISION**

To commence a consultation process on the following proposed charges to the Council's Fairer Charging policy in order to generate additional income/ savings of £250k as per MTFS savings process agreed at Cabinet in July 2011. There are 3 proposed changes to the policy, as set out in the Executive Decision attached.

### **Reasons for decisions:**

The executive decision is required in order to commence the consultation on a review of the Fairer Charging policy, which will lead to it being amended, having considering the outcome of the consultation.

The additional income/savings generated by these proposed policy changes are part of the total MTFS savings that have previously been agreed at the July 2011 Cabinet.

Once consultation has concluded and the final proposed policy changes are known, a further executive decision will be sought.

## **Other options considered and rejected:**

As detailed in the attached Executive Report of 11 July 2012.

## **REASONS FOR REQUISITION**

1. In removing the current maximum charge cap for users of domiciliary care services:
  - a. What is the actual cost of services in excess of the cap?
  - b. Would users be required to sell their assets to pay for it?
  - c. How is the £138,000 saving made up?
2. In removing the 10% discretionary allowance for domiciliary care service:
  - a. How many people does this affect?
  - b. What are the level of feed and
  - c. What level is the “basic living allowance” set at?
  - d. How is the saving £101,429 made up?
3. In reducing the cumulative weekly allowance for expenses linked to individuals personal and medical circumstances from £77.45 to £40:
  - a. How many users will this affect?
  - b. How is the saving of £26,398.39 made up?

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Committee considers the requisition of the decision of Cabinet and determine whether to uphold it.**