

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE: 18 APRIL 2007

SOCIAL WORK APPROVED RATES AND CHARGES -2007-08

Report by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- i. advise Committee of the progress in negotiations between CoSLA and Independent Care Home Providers in respect of fees for 2007/2008
- ii. seek approval for alterations to approved rates and charges for social work services for financial year 2007/08.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Social Work Committee on 22nd March 2007 approved a report in relation to charges for social work services. This report advised that negotiations between CoSLA and Scottish Care in respect of an agreed cost/quality model for Care Home Fees were at an advanced stage. The report also outlined the proposed rates at that time.

2.2 Subsequent to 22nd March these negotiations have been concluded and within the agreement CoSLA have advised of final rates that are in slight variance to the previous proposals. The revised rates are detailed below.

3. REVISION OF CHARGES

Care Home Services {Older People}

3.1.1 The Scottish Executive has made resources available to increase the fee paid to Care Homes for older people. A requirement of this additional funding is that it is based on a cost/quality model, with increased rates being paid to care homes that meet quality criteria.

Negotiations have taken place between CoSLA and Scottish Care in respect of an agreed cost/quality model and the resulting proposed rates detailed in table 3 below.

Table 3 - Approved Rates for Residential/Nursing Care (Older People)

	Single	Double
Residential	£435.30	£410.30
Nursing	£501.37	£476.37

The increase rate includes an inflationary element and an element tied to quality (£18.13). Under the terms of the proposed agreement, the quality element will be payable for the first six months of the financial year on a 'pump priming' basis to support providers in attaining agreed quality standards (particularly in relation to staff training and qualification).

Continuation of the quality payment for the remainder of the financial year will be contingent upon the requisite standards having been attained.

These increases for 2007/2008 are in addition to the 2006/2007 increase of 11.79% and 10.34% for residential and nursing care respectively.

- 3.1.2 For adults under 65 residing in care homes it is proposed that the rates for 2007/08 are set in line with the proposed rate for Older People whilst maintaining differentials.

Table 4 - Approved Rates for Residential/Nursing Care (Adults)

	Nursing		Residential	
	Single	Double	Single	Double
Drug Alcohol Dependence	£501.37	£476.37	£435.30	£410.30
Mental Illness	£501.37	£476.37	£435.30	£410.30
Adult Learning Disability	£509.37	£484.37	£447.30	£422.30
Adult Physical Disability	£547.37	£522.37	£486.30	£461.30

3.2 Hardship

- 3.2.1 Elected members should note that, in cases of hardship, charges may be waived, in whole or in part, at the discretion of the Executive Head of Social Work.

4. **LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Nil.

5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This report fulfils the duty of the Director of Educational and Social Services to review charges for services, as determined by section 7.1 of the Council's Financial Regulations.

5.2 In line with Benefit increases from Department for Work and Pensions it is recommended that increases take effect from 9 April 2007.

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING

6.1 The provision of Social Work services within a charging framework that reflects the ability to pay supports the Improving Health and Eliminating Poverty themes of the Community Plan

7. RISK IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The Social Work Service requires to set appropriate rates and charges to support the Revenue Estimate process in ensuring continuity of services to the most vulnerable people in our communities.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that Committee agree to:

- (i) the revised charges as detailed in section 3 of this report; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

Graham Short
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services
EF/JB
10 April 2007
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Letter dated 23 March 2007, National Care Home Quality Award from Rory Mair, Chief Executive, CoSLA

For further information on this report please contact: Eddie Fraser, Senior Manager
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IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: JACKIE DONNELLY