

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE – 1 MARCH 2001

UPRATING OF APPROVED NURSING & RESIDENTIAL HOME RATES

Report by the Director of Educational & Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Committee approval for the uprating of the Council's rates for voluntary and private nursing and residential care home placements for adults and older people, in line with the DSS benefit uprating in 2001/2002, the revision of the weekly charges for residential care in Council-operated establishments and the revision in respite care charges.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Social Work Committee on 6 February 1998 (Item 9, Page 480) agreed that the Council would continue to operate the contracts put in place by Strathclyde Regional Council for residential and nursing care. In this arrangement, the Council has a contractual duty to consider and agree the approved rate to apply in each financial year and notify service providers of any amendments.
- 2.2 The Council has set approved rates in line with DSS rates in previous years. Charges have also been set for respite care across the care sectors. The Council has also agreed that it will pay Supplementation rates, above DSS rates, set by other local authorities in accordance with the appropriate COSLA agreement.

3. APPROVED RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL & NURSING CARE IN THE PRIVATE & VOLUNTARY SECTOR

- 3.1 The revised DSS weekly rates (for 2001/2002), to be implemented on 9 April 2001, are set out in Appendix 1. It is proposed that the approved rates be set at the DSS rates noted, in particular at £261 per week for residential care and £336 per week for nursing home care.

4. APPROVED RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL & NURSING CARE OPERATED BY THE COUNCIL

- 4.1 The weekly rates applied in Council units are noted below. It is proposed that the rates be increased by the inflationary rise in DSS rates. These rates apply to self funding arrangements only.

Type	Rate
Residential Accommodation for Older People	£326 pw
Residential Accommodation for People with Learning Disabilities	£442pw

5. SUPPLEMENTATION

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Council continue to pay Supplementation rates, above DSS rates, set by other local authorities in accordance with existing arrangements.

6. RESPITE CARE CHARGES (ADULTS & OLDER PEOPLE)

- 6.1 The current and proposed weekly charges for respite care are set out in the table below. The difference in charges relates to the availability of the residential care allowance in voluntary and private units reflecting changes in DSS rates.

Type	2000/01	2001/02
Council operated units	£52.05 pw	£56.45 pw
Private & Voluntary operated units	£113.35 pw	£119.75 pw

- 6.2 In addition, it is proposed that a review of the supplementation rate for The Elms unit, a residential unit providing respite care for people with physical and learning disabilities is undertaken and presented to Committee at a later date.

7. RESPITE CARE CHARGES (YOUNG PEOPLE)

- 7.1 The current and proposed charges for respite care are set out in the table below, based on the Disabled Living Allowance – care component rates set by the DSS. The care component rates reflect the level of disability, with the higher rate applying to the most severe disability and the lower rate to the least severe disability.

Disabled Living Allowance – care component	2000/01	2001/02
Higher Rate	£53.55 pw	£55.30 pw
Middle Rate	£35.80 pw	£37.00 pw
Lower Rate	£14.20 pw	£14.65 pw

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The proposed charges are estimated to generate the required level of income included in the department's budget allocation for 2001/02, based on 3% inflation.
- 8.2 The Scottish Executive announced changes to the capital limits for self-funding residents in care. Limits will consequently be raised from £16,000 to £18,500. This will immediately result in some 18 people currently self-funding their care, to require public funding.
- 8.3 The Scottish Executive has also introduced from 1st April 2001 the requirement for Local Authorities to disregard the value of a person's house for the first 3 months that they are in care to allow a period of rehabilitation. This will require the Council to pay its approved rate to providers for a

3-month period, less the individual's contribution based on income.

- 8.4 The Scottish Executive is currently considering further changes to charging arrangements at this time. Any future changes will be brought to Social Work Committees attention.

9. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 As illustrated above, the funding of residential/nursing care is effectively regulated by DSS benefit levels and existing contractual arrangements.
- 9.2 The Contract that the Council has with residential and nursing providers to provide care states that the Council may in exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the providers undertake more frequent review of the Councils approved rate i.e. more than once annually. Therefore this years approved rate should be seen as an interim amount as the Council may require to revisit it in light to the changes in the funding of care.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Members of the Social Work Committee are requested to:
- (i) agree the approved rates for the private and voluntary sector noted in Appendix 1 of the report,
 - (ii) agree the approved rates for Council accommodation noted in the report,
 - (iii) confirm the Council's continuing commitment to meeting Supplementation rates set by other local authorities, as indicated in Section 5 of the report, and
 - (iv) otherwise note the contents of the report.

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational & Social Services

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AYMcD/JBS
22 February 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **Nil**

Members requiring further information should contact Stephen Moore
(01563 576920).

Appendix 1	The Council's Approved Rate
RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES	
CATEGORIES OF DEPENDENCIES	
Older People	£261
Older People with Dementia	£261
Adults with Dementia **	£238
Adults with Physical or Sensory Disability	£308
Adults with a Learning Disability	£271
Adults with a Mental Health Problem **	£238
Adults with Drug or Alcohol Dependency **	£238
Adult Ex Offenders **	£225
People with a brain injury	from £308
** special criteria satisfied	£261
NURSING HOMES	
CATEGORIES OF DEPENDENCIES	
Older People (including mental impairment)	£336
Drug / Alcohol Dependence	£337
Learning Disability	£343
Physical Disablement - Below pension age	£379
Physical Disablement - Over pension age	£336
Mental illness below pensionable age	£336

AGENDA