



# Community Care

# Fact Sheet No.6

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## **Adult Social Care Services**

Adult Social Care Services of Brighton and Hove City Council provide relevant services to people in the City in need of care and support. The Care Act came into force in April 2015 and changed the way the Council decides eligibility for care and support services.

Care and support can be provided to people with certain physical or mental impairment or illness. Help can also be provided to carers who are looking after these people in their homes.

If you need information and advice about adult social care services you should contact the Adult Social Care Services Access Point, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Bartholomew House, Bartholomew Square, Brighton BN1 1JE.

Tel: 01273 295555

Email: [accesspoint@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:accesspoint@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Website: [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk)

## **Needs Assessment**

Adult Social Care Services (ASCS) will carry out a needs assessment for people who appear to be in need of care and support regardless of their financial status or whether ASCS think their needs will be eligible.

If a person thinks that he/she has any care and support needs contact should be made with Access Point (see details above) to ask for a needs assessment. Alternatively, an online application form for an assessment can be completed.

A needs assessment is a discussion which can happen face-to-face or on the telephone between the person concerned and ASCS. The assessment will be used to identify care and support needs and discuss how these can be met. A carer, friend or family member can help with an assessment and represent a person.

If a person is eligible for services, ASCS will send him/her a copy of the care and support plan produced. Eligible needs will be reviewed on a yearly basis. If a person is not eligible for services an explanation will be provided in writing.

With regard to payment for care and support, the person will then need to have a financial assessment, possibly involving a personal visit. After this ASCS will advise about any contribution to the costs of the services to be received.

A Council leaflet "Eligibility for Adult Social Care Services" provides further information on the subject. This publication can be downloaded from the Council's website or obtained from the Access Point.

## **The Carer's Assessment**

A carer providing unpaid support to someone who could not manage without their help has the right to a carer's assessment. A carer's assessment will look at the care and support provided and identify any further support needed.

There are a number of ways to have an assessment. The type of assessment will depend on your situation or preference. An assessment can be done over the telephone or someone from ASCS can visit you. If you would like an assessment you should contact the Access Point or complete the self-assessment form online (contact details as shown at the head of Page 2).

The assessment provides a key opportunity to help you understand your situation and identify your needs. You might find it useful if you prepare for the assessment. One way to do this is to keep a diary for a week or a month to record the tasks you do, how you cope or feel about caring, and any particular difficulties which arise. A guide to some topics you might discuss with an assessor is included in the Annex.

A Council booklet “Looking After Someone”, which includes advice for carers including further information on carers’ assessments, can be downloaded from the Council’s website or obtained from the Access Point.

**In addition, there is the Carers Hub, which is a new focal point to help unpaid carers in Brighton and Hove get all the information, advice and support that they need. Details of the dedicated phone line and website for this are:**

**Tel: 01273 977000**

**Website: [carershub.co.uk](http://carershub.co.uk)**

**Regular Coffee Mornings for carers are held at six locations in Brighton and Hove.**

### **Charges for Non-Residential Care Services**

Adult Social Care Services will make a charge for most services they provide.

The amount to pay will depend on the financial position of the person requiring the services. The person will be asked to complete a financial statement giving full details of savings, property, income and expenditure.

Services that are excluded from charges are:

- Adaptations under £1,000
- Daily Living Equipment
- After Care services under Section 117 of the Mental Health Act
- Intermediate Care Services for up to 6 weeks.

People who have savings and capital over £23,250 will be liable for the full cost of their care services and this is charged from the start date of the service. People with less than £23,250 and who have income of less than £189 per week (£145 per week for one of a couple) will not usually have to pay – except for the fixed charges for meals and transport.

The following is a general guide to charges for home care and day care from April 2018:

**Home Care Agency charges vary but usually start from £17.83 per hour.**  
**Council Run Home Care - £24.00 per hour for each carer.**  
**Council Run Day Care - £38.00 per day**  
**Meals provided at a Day Centre - fixed charge £4.70 per meal.**  
**Transport funded by the Council - fixed charge of £3.90 per return journey.**

Any expenditure that relates to a person's disability will be assessed when working out how much the person needs to pay. Evidence of this expenditure may be required. Mobility allowances, war pension and any earned income will be ignored. All other income will be taken into account.

Capital/savings of over £14,250 will be included in the assessment at the rate of £1 per week for every £250 – or part. The outcome of this calculation will be added to the person's total weekly income.

The calculation will be done as follows:

- Add up all income – including any savings calculation but ignoring earnings, pension savings credit and mobility benefit
- Take away the fixed living allowance of £189 per week (£145 per week for one of a couple)
- Take away the assessed disability costs
- Take away housing costs, e.g. rent, mortgage, Council Tax, water rates
- The amount left over will be the weekly charge for services. This amount will be rounded down to the nearest whole pound. Note: The actual service costs will be charged if this is a lower amount.

Further details about charges are provided in the Council's Adult Social Care Information Sheet No 2 (April 2018) – Charges for Care Services (Non-Residential).

### **Community Meals**

Meals on Wheels (Meals in the Community) is a service that delivers meals to people in their own homes. Contact should be made with any of the three service providers shown below. They offer at reasonable cost hot, chilled or frozen meals that meet nutritional requirements. Meals can be delivered at lunch every day or on specified days.

#### License to Freeze

Telephone: 01323 643726

Email: office@licensetofreeze.co.uk

#### Theresa Meals

Telephone: 01323 441114

Email: graham@mothertheresas.co.uk

#### Oakhouse Foods

Telephone: 01273 582260

Email: webber@oakhousefoods.co.uk

Further information including menus is on the Council's website [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk)

### **Charges for Residential and Nursing Home Care**

If a person is unable to pay the full cost of the care home the Council will ask for a statement of the person's financial resources (eligible capital and income) to be provided. If assistance with completing a statement is required, someone from the Council's Financial Assessment Team should be able to help. A written confirmation of the charge to pay will then be received. All residents are required to pay at least a minimum charge.

### **Capital**

First the Council looks at capital:

- If the person has savings or capital of more than £23,250 the person will pay the full cost of residential or nursing home care
- If the person owns a property its value will normally be regarded as capital after 12 weeks of moving permanently to a care home – but it may not be taken into account in some cases, for example, when a partner continues to live there.
- If the person owns a second property, the value will be taken into account from the date of admission to the home
- Savings or capital of less than £14,250 is not taken into account.
- If the person has savings or capital between £14,250 and £23,250 a charge of £1 per week for every £250 or part thereof will be made. This is known as Tariff Income.
- If any savings or property has been transferred to someone else prior to needing residential or nursing home care it may still be taken into consideration in the financial assessment. This will depend on individual circumstances.

### **Income**

Next the Council looks at income. This includes:

- Benefits such as Pension Credit; Income Support; State Retirement Pension; Employment and Support Allowance; Incapacity Benefit; Universal Credit; Industrial Injuries Benefit; and war widow and widower pensions
- superannuation and other private pensions
- Personal Independence Payment (daily living component); Attendance Allowance; Disability Living Allowance (care component)
- Income from non-dependent relatives and boarders
- Rental income
- Annuities and trust income
- Any other available income.

Note: The mobility components of Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance, war pensions and earnings are not included.

## **Allowances and Deductions**

All residents are entitled to keep a personal allowance of £24.90 per week. A further £10 is disregarded for people in receipt of war widow or widower pensions. There is also a Savings Credit allowance of up to £5.75.

Note: In some cases, for example for short term residential care, the cost of maintaining the person's property may be allowed for a limited period. This may include rent, mortgage, water charges and council tax.

## **Calculating the Charges**

Any Tariff Income will be added to the person's chargeable income. Allowances will then be deducted from this total. The balance is the amount which must be paid towards the cost of the care home fees.

Financial assessments are normally reviewed each year to take account of increases in benefits and any other changes in the person's financial circumstances. If you think the charge has been incorrectly calculated, or is unreasonable, you should contact the Council's Financial Assessment Team - see contact details below. Someone will then look into the matter and let you know the outcome.

Checks should be made with the Department for Work and Pensions to ensure that a person is receiving all the benefits to which he/she is entitled. See Fact Sheet No 4, Benefits for Carers (and those they care for) for the various contact details.

Further details about charges are provided in the Council's Adult Social Care Information Sheet No1 – Charges for Residential and Nursing Home Care (April 2018)

Information Sheets and further advice about charges for non-residential care or residential and nursing home care can be obtained from:

Financial Assessment Section  
Adult Social Care  
Brighton & Hove City Council  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Bartholomew House  
Bartholomew Square  
Brighton BN1 1JE

Tel: Non-residential Services – 01273 295662, Residential Services – 01273 295660  
Email: ASCIncomesSection@brighton-hove.gov.uk

## **Other Useful Council Contacts**

Blue Badges (Disabled) – 01273 296270  
Community Specialist Team (HIV/AIDS) – 01273 267575  
Housing Options Service – 01273 294400  
Out-of-Hours Emergency Service (Adult Social Care) – 01273 295555  
Substance Misuse (Pavilions) – 0800 0149819

**Other Useful Contacts**

Age UK – 01273 720603

Disability Advice Centre – 01273 894050

## Help with the Carers' Assessment

Here is a guide to some topics you might discuss with the assessor:

### About You

- How many hours a week do you care? (Remember to include everything you do, including washing and cleaning)
- Who else lives with you? Do they help you with caring?
- Is there anyone else who helps you with caring? If so, how?
- Do you have any health problems yourself? Do these affect your caring? If so, how?
- Does caring affect your health e.g. back problems, stress, anxiety, depression, lack of sleep?
- What other roles do you have apart from being a carer – parent, child, partner, employee?
- How does caring affect these relationships and the relationship you have with the person you care for?
- Who gives you emotional support? Do you need more help with this?

### Medication

- Do you have to be responsible for the person's medication e.g. reminding them to take it/giving it to them and making sure they swallow it?

### Personal Care

What personal care do you have to provide:

- Washing/showering/bathing?
- Dressing?
- Going to the toilet?
- Lifting?
- At night?
- Eating and drinking?

### Housework

- What housework do you have to do e.g. cooking, laundry, cleaning, shopping, managing finances?
- Do you have any help with these?

### Housing

- Do you live with the person you care for?
- What is access to and around the home like? How easy is it for the person to manage the stairs/get around the house/get in and out of the bath/shower?
- Are there any particular difficulties with the house? What would make these easier to cope with e.g. special equipment?

- If you don't live with the person you care for, are there any difficulties in this regard e.g. you live a long way from them, you have other responsibilities which limit the time you can give?

### **General**

- What other tasks do you do for the person you care for?
- Can they be left on their own or do you have to keep an eye on them?
- Do you have to provide emotional support?
- Do you have to take them to medical and social care appointments?
- Do you have a car? If not, what forms of transport are available?
- Do you have enough money to live on or are finances tight?

### **You as a Carer**

- How is caring for you? Do you feel you have choices about your caring role?
- What would help you with caring?
- What parts of the caring role do you want to do, if any?
- What do you find particularly difficult?
- What do you not want to do?

### **Employment**

- Do you work? Part-time or full-time?
- What arrangements are made to care for the person while you are at work? Do you need extra help with this?
- How easy is it to take time off work in an emergency? Is there anyone else who can help in an emergency?
- If you don't work, would you like to?

### **Leisure**

- Do you get any time for yourself? How often?
- Is there something you would like to do but can't because of your caring responsibilities?