

MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
SAVING PROPOSAL- BUDGET IMPACT ASSESSMENT

DIRECTORATE:	Social Services and Housing
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SERVICE AREA:	Adult Services
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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

SAVING PROPOSAL TITLE:	10% annual increase in hourly charge for home care for a period of 5 years
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BUDGET AREA:	Adult Social Services-Home Care Client Contributions
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TOTAL BUDGET FOR THIS AREA:	£2,749,903 (income)
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TOTAL SAVING:	£26,000 for 2024/25 and similar savings for 2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29
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PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SAVING CAN BE ACHIEVED:	
	<p>The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 gives local authorities the power to charge service users for the social care provided or commissioned by the local authority subject to an assessment of the individual service users financial circumstances, which is intended to prevent service users from being charged more than they can reasonably afford. Under this power, all Welsh local authorities charge for domiciliary care services based on maximum charge per hour of service received by the service user. The maximum charge per hour that is applied by Caerphilly CBC is one of the lowest in Wales so it is proposed to gradually increase this maximum hourly charge by 10% per annum of a period of 5 years by which time it is expected that Caerphilly's hourly charge will be more in line with the Welsh average. Those service users with limited disposable income and those already paying the maximum charge set by Welsh Government of £100 per week would not be affected by an increase in Caerphilly's maximum hourly charge. However, more affluent services users that currently pay less than £100 per week for their non-residential care services would be expected to pay more towards the cost of their care.</p>

2. PUBLIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT UPON THE PUBLIC (where possible):	
	<p>Consider the 5 ways of working think about the <i>long-term</i> implications for future generations and <i>preventative services</i> while recognising that savings now will secure future services. NB* IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNISE THE SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL CHALLENGE FACING THE COUNCIL.</p>
	<p>Long-term guidance: Consider the importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to meet long-term needs, including the future financial sustainability of the Council.</p>

Prevention guidance: Consider whether the proposed saving is affecting a preventative area that reduces future burdens and supports well-being and how this can be mitigated if the service reduces, or ceases.

The cost of providing domiciliary care increases year on year as a result of pay rises and other inflationary factors such as increasing transport costs. In order to mitigate some of that cost pressure the authority will need to maximise the income it can collect by passing some of the burden on to those recipients of care that can afford it by increasing the hourly rate charged for the service. The regulations that support the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 ensure that less affluent service users are protected from unaffordable increases in care charges.

STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS

<p>DOES THE PROPOSAL HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO IMPACT MORE GREATLY ON PEOPLE WITH PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS? (Please tick) (Reminder- AGE, DISABILITY, GENDER REASSIGNMENT, MARRIAGE or CIVIL PARTNERSHIP, PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY, RACE, RELIGION or BELIEF, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION)</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>✓</p> <p>Older and disabled people are more likely to need domiciliary care.</p>	
<p>DOES THE PROPOSAL IMPACT ON PEOPLE WHO FACE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE? (Please tick) (Reminder- LOW INCOME/INCOME POVERTY, LOW WEALTH/OR NO WEALTH, MATERIAL DEPRIVATION, AREA DEPRIVATION, SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND, and CUMULATIVE IMPACT OF THEM)</p>		<p>No</p> <p>✓</p>
<p>DOES THE PROPOSAL HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE? (Please tick) (Reminder- OPPORTUNITIES TO USE THE LANGUAGE, PROMOTE THE LANGUAGE and/or TREATING THE WELSH LANGUAGE LESS FAVOURABLY THAN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE)</p>		<p>No</p> <p>✓</p>

NB * If you answered 'yes' to the any of the above, please complete an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA). For further advice and guidance please see the [Integrated Impact Assessment](#) page on the Intranet. This Budget Impact Assessment, or an IIA, if relevant, must be submitted to be included as hyperlinks to all decision reports related to the proposed savings. **IAs are NOT required for nil public impact proposals.**

PLEASE DETAIL ANY CONSULTATION THAT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN CONSIDERING THIS PROPOSAL. Summarise any feedback received.

Consider the 5 ways of working, in particular, *involvement*.

Involvement: Consider whether you have involved people who have an interest in the service area, including service users and potential service users.

As part of a review of non-residential care charges undertaken by a Task and Finish Group made up of Members of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee between 2019 and 2023, consultation was undertaken with the following bodies:-

GAVO (Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations), Age Cymru, Disability Rights UK, The Wales School for Social Care Research, Social Care Wales, the Health & Social Care Management degree programme at the University of South Wales, and Age Cymru Gwent.

Update following a period of public consultation:

The council’s public consultation on the draft budget proposals for 2024/25 ran from Monday 22nd January 2024 until Tuesday 13th February 2024.

Residents and other stakeholder groups were invited to offer their views on the proposals in a number of ways. This included a survey (available online and in paper formats), attending face-to-face engagement sessions, using the council’s online digital engagement platform and targeted stakeholder engagement with potentially impacted groups.


337 responses to the consultation were received by the closing date. A low response rate such as this comes with the caveat of self-selecting bias in the response and local media has focused attention on a small number of issues.

Face-to face conversations have had low levels of attendance (less than 10 visitors per session) with the exception of Caerphilly where over 40 people attended. A meeting was held with 9 Viewpoint Panel members and one person attended an online drop-in session.

The full consultation feedback report will be available at [Council Budget Setting 2024-2025 | The Caerphilly Conversation](#)

In completing the survey, 59 responses were received opposing the proposal. 5 responses supported the proposal. Through face-to-face discussions, those who opposed the proposals largely felt the cumulative impact of cost of living and other savings measures on older people in particular should be highlighted.

IS FURTHER CONSULTATION REQUIRED BEFORE THIS PROPOSAL CAN BE IMPLEMENTED?	Complete	
NB* Please seek guidance from the Insights and Intelligence Team , who can advise on whether a formal consultation is required and adherence to the Gunning Principles.		

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE, THE IMPACT RATING DEFINITIONS, AND THE MITIGATION YOU ARE PLANNING, PLEASE INDICATE THE PUBLIC IMPACT RATING APPLICABLE TO THIS SAVING PROPOSAL (please tick):				
NIL IMPACT	MINOR IMPACT	MODERATE IMPACT	SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	CRITICAL IMPACT
	 The financial assessment process and Welsh Government cap			

	on charges will limit the number of people affected by the proposal and ensure no-one pays more than £100per week			
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3. ORGANISATIONAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

<p>PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT UPON THE ORGANISATION (where possible) :</p> <p>e.g. gradual reduction in service, alternative delivery models, managing demand, more efficient use of assets, income generation, transferrable skills of staff, commercialisation of the service etc.</p> <p>In addition, consider the 5 ways of working, in particular, acting in <i>collaboration</i> with other service areas or partners.</p> <p>Collaboration guidance: Acting in collaboration with any other service or partner to meet objectives where they may be able to deliver a broadly equivalent service.</p> <p>There would be no organisational impact as we already collect charges from domiciliary care service users.</p>

<p>PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT UPON MEMBERS OF STAFF:</p> <p>There would be no organisational impact as we already collect charges from domiciliary care service users.</p>
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<p>NUMBER OF FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) STAFF IN THE PROJECT:</p>	Not applicable
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<p>NUMBER OF POSTS IN THE PROJECT: (Reminder- PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE SOUGHT THE ADVICE OF PEOPLE SERVICES IN HOW TO MANAGE ANY STAFFING CHANGES)</p>	Not applicable
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PLEASE SPECIFY HOW THIS WILL BE MANAGED:	HOW MANY POSTS?
POST(S) ALREADY VACANT:	Not applicable
VOLUNTARY SEVERANCE:	Not applicable
RETIREMENT:	Not applicable
REDEPLOYMENT:	Not applicable
REDUNDANCY:	Not applicable

<p>PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF WHEN THIS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED:</p>	April 2024
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<p>WILL THE PROPOSED SAVING HAVE AN IMPACT ON ANOTHER DIRECTORATE, SERVICE AREA OR TEAM WITHIN THE COUNCIL? (please tick)</p>		<p>No</p> <p>✓</p>
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WILL THE PROPOSED SAVING HAVE AN IMPACT ON ANOTHER PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNER, OR VOLUNTARY SECTOR PARTNER? (please tick)		No ✓
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If yes to either of the above, please consider the 5 ways of working, in particular *integration*.

PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE SAVING CAN BE ACHIEVED IN A WAY THAT WILL MITGATE THE IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICE AREAS OR PARTNERS (**where possible**)

Integration guidance: Consider how the proposal will impact on other service areas, or partners, and their ability to meet their objectives, recognising that the savings requirement on the Council may override some concerns.

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE, THE IMPACT RATING DEFINITIONS, AND THE MITIGATION YOU ARE PLANNING, PLEASE INDICATE THE ORGANISATIONAL IMPACT RATING APPLICABLE TO THIS SAVING PROPOSAL (please tick):				
NIL IMPACT	MINOR IMPACT	MODERATE IMPACT	SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	CRITICAL IMPACT
✓				

4. LINKS TO POLICY AND CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

DOES THE SAVINGS PROPOSAL LINK TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

POLICY AREA	WHAT IS THE LINK?
CORPORATE PLAN and WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES (please state which objectives)	
STATUTORY DUTIES	
WELSH GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE or STRATEGY	Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014

5. OTHER RISK(S) AND SENSITIVITIES

HAVE ANY <u>OTHER</u> RISKS/SENSITIVITIES BEEN IDENTIFIED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS SAVING PROPOSAL?		No ✓
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PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (Risks and Sensitivities) WHICH YOU FEEL HAS NOT BEEN CAPTURED.

HEAD OF SERVICE: Jo Williams

DATE OF COMPLETION: 8th January 2024