

# Care and Support Charging and Financial Assessment Framework



**Reading**  
Borough Council  
Working better with you

## 10C: Financial Assessment and Charging for Short-Term/Respite stays in a Care Home (up to 28 Nights/year)

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*You should read this section in conjunction with [Information that applies to all financial assessments](#)*

Short stays /respite stays in a care home are not free<sup>1</sup>.

If your care and support plan includes planned breaks in a care home you may be entitled to financial support from the Council to help towards your care costs. How much help you get is based on the outcome of a financial assessment.

### Assessed Maximum Weekly Contribution

We use our [Charging rules for non-residential care and support](#) to work out your Assessed Maximum Weekly Contribution towards short stay/respite care home fees for the first 28 nights in a year.

This is the most you could be asked to pay towards all the care and support services identified in your Care and Support Plan, including any planned short/respite stays in a care home for up to 28 nights in a year.

You may not need to pay as much as this. How much you pay depends on the average weekly cost of your care (your agreed weekly Personal Budget<sup>2</sup>).

### Your Weekly Personal Budget

We work out the amount we think it will cost to pay for your planned care and support services for the year - including any planned breaks up to 28 nights - and divide this by 52 to get the average weekly cost - your Weekly Personal Budget:

- If your Weekly Personal Budget is less than your Assessed Maximum Weekly Contribution your actual charge will be your Weekly Personal Budget amount.
- If your Weekly Personal Budget is more than your Assessed Maximum Weekly Contribution you will only pay your Assessed Maximum Contribution - the Council will pay the rest.

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<sup>1</sup> If your short stay is an “Intermediate Care Service” it may be provided free for a short period – see [Care and Support Services provided free of charge](#).

<sup>2</sup> Your Personal Budget is the amount we think it will cost to pay for services to meet the unmet eligible care and support needs identified by your social care assessment.

- If your Assessed Maximum Weekly Contribution is 'Nil' (zero or less than the Council's minimum assessed charge<sup>3</sup>) you won't need to pay anything towards your care and support.

See [Appendix F: Example Care Charges Calculations](#).

### **If you choose a care home that costs more than we would normally pay**

See our [Choice of Accommodation and Additional Payments Policy](#)

### **If your short/respite stays exceed more than 28 nights during a year**

We will re-calculate your Assessed Maximum Weekly Contribution for the 29<sup>th</sup> night onwards using rules for [Temporary Care Home Stays](#)

### **If your savings and investments are above the Upper Capital Limit<sup>4</sup>**

You won't be entitled to financial support from the Council and must pay the full cost of your short/respite stays. However:

- you are still entitled to a social care assessment and information and advice to help you choose and arrange a suitable care home that can meet your care and support needs.
- You have the right to ask us to arrange and manage your care and support services for you. If you do this we will allocate and manage a Personal Budget for you and charge you the full cost of your Personal Budget plus [Arrangement Fees](#) to pay towards our administration costs.

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<sup>3</sup> See [Appendix B: Financial Assessment Allowances Schedule](#)

<sup>4</sup> See [Appendix A: Capital Limits Schedule](#)