

Care and Support Charging and Financial Assessment Framework



Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

6: Care and Support Services provided free of charge

Assessments of need and care planning are always provided free of charge, and Councils are not permitted to charge for any service or part of service which the National Health Service (NHS) is under a duty to provide - this includes Continuing Healthcare and the NHS contribution to Registered Nursing Care.

All councils must provide the following care and support services **free of charge**:

- **Intermediate Care - including reablement** - which offers a short period¹ of intensive therapies and support from health and social care professionals to help people promote or regain their independence
- **community equipment and minor adaptations**² - small items of equipment or gadgets or small modifications designed to help you stay active and carry out everyday tasks without help from others
- care and support provided to people with Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease
- After-care services/support provided under section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983

The Council has also chosen to provide the following services **free of charge**:

- Carer services provided directly to carers to meet carers identified needs³
- 'Preventative' services⁴ provided directly by the Council to prevent or delay care needs becoming more serious (for example training to self-manage a health condition, or stress-management training for carers)

¹ Intermediate Care Services are only provided for a short period of time – which may continue up to 6 weeks without charge.

² A minor adaptation is one costing £1,000 or less

³ These are support services provided under *Section 20 of The Care Act 2014*

⁴ These are services provided under *Section 2 of The Care Act 2014*. The Care and Support (Preventing Needs for Care and Support) Regulations 2014 give further information.