



Need independent advice about paying for your care and support?

These organisations are there to help:



Age UK Berkshire
Tel: 0118 959 4242 info@ageukberkshire.org.uk



Reading Mencap
Tel: 0118 966 2518 office@readingmencap.org.uk



Age UK Reading
Tel: 0118 950 2480 info@ageukreading.org.uk



Communicare
Tel: 0118 926 3941 office@communicare.org.uk

Navigating the care and support system can be complex and sometimes you may need extra help. Reading Borough Council commissions these four charities to provide independent information and advice to people in Reading who may need assistance with things like understanding why you might have to pay something towards your care and support.

Care and support is not free for everyone

Note that this flyer is aimed at people ...

- who have had a care assessment by Reading Borough Council, **and**
- who get or are about to get support at home or in the community (ie NOT in a care home), **and**
- who receive or are eligible to receive a disability benefit such as Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments, **and**
- who have savings and investments less than £23,250, excluding their own home.

If you have enough income the law requires you to pay a contribution towards your care and support according to what you can afford.

The weekly contribution, if any, is worked out through a Financial Assessment of your income and outgoings by Reading Borough Council.

The financial assessment looks at your income (including some benefits), and any savings you have over a certain amount, but not earnings from paid work. It takes into account your housing costs, an allowance for everyday living costs, and extra costs due to disability or illness.

If you have extra expenses because you are disabled you can have a detailed assessment of those expenses as part of your financial assessment.

In order to get financial help with the cost of your care from Reading Borough Council you must complete the financial assessment.

Full details about the way the charging for a contribution towards the cost of your care works can be found at <http://www.reading.gov.uk/carecharges> or you can ask one of the four organisations on the front of this flyer.