



RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

SUBJECT:

Financial assessment and charging framework under the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To establish non-residential care charging, residential care charging and deferred payment policies in accordance with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

DELEGATED DECISION (Date):

To approve the non-residential care charging, residential care charging and deferred payment policies as set out in the appendices to this report.


Chief Officer Signature

C. ISINCRAINI
Print Name

27.06.16
Date

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution

Michael Storey

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

23/06/16

DATE

[Signature]

OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

22/6/16

DATE

Directorate:	Community and Children's Services
Contact Name:	Neil Elliott
Designation:	Service Manager Adult Services
Tel.No.	01443 444603

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2016/17

**REPORT TO ACCOMPANY DECISION OF
GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

<p><u>Part 1</u> (Non-Confidential)</p>

<p>Financial Assessment and Charging Policies under The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014</p>
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 In accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation this report has been prepared to accompany the decision of the Group Director of Community and Children's Services as described below.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to establish non-residential care charging, residential care charging and deferred payments policies in accordance with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the non-residential care charging policy, residential care charging policy and deferred payments policy as set out in the appendices to this report are approved.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Group Director, Community and Children's Services' Cabinet report of 17th March 2016 on implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, summarised the main background to the new Act and, in particular, Part 5: charging and financial assessment.
- 3.2 From the 6th April 2016, the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, introduces one unified charging framework, which will replace all existing Acts and Regulations, relating to charging for residential and non-residential Care.
- 3.3 The main changes set out in Part 5 of the new Act 2014 are:

- The authority now has discretion to charge for its services where previously we had a duty to charge
- Charges for care can now be backdated to the day the service was first provided
- The authority has the ability to put a land charge on service user property to cover debt owed. The new Act 2014 also allows for interest to be charged on these deferred payment arrangements
- Respite now to be assessed under non-residential charging and capped under current arrangements at £60 per week previously not means tested
- Deferred payment agreements to be formalised
- Rules around residential charging to be brought in line with non-residential charging e.g. review process

3.4 At its meeting on the 17th March 2016, Cabinet authorised officers to continue charging for residential and non-residential care services and to update the Council's charging policies, procedures and public information to address the changes required by Part 5 of the Act 2014.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 The new charging and financial assessment provisions contained in Part 5 of the Act 2014 allows local authorities to impose charges for providing or arranging a service where appropriate.

4.2 In line with Cabinet's decision on 17th March 2016, the Council will use its discretion to continue to impose a charge, or set a contribution, towards the costs of social care/services, and will do so, in line with the requirements of the new Act 2014, which came into effect from the 6th April 2016.

4.3 Existing residential and non-residential care charging policies have now been amended and a new policy for deferred payments developed to ensure compliance with the new regulations. Copies of the aforementioned policies are attached as appendices to this report.