



Have your say on our idea to change our charging policy



Before you begin

Some of the things in this paper are not easy to understand. You may need some help from someone to read it.



If you are worried about anything in this paper, please ask us for help.



You can call our special helpline on 01603 222309. The helpline will be open from 8am to 7pm, Monday to Friday up until Friday 21 December.



You can also

Email:

charging.policy@norfolk.gov.uk



This is an easy read document.

We also have a more detailed consultation document.



You can find it on our website at

www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget



You can ask for a copy by email

haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk



You can ring our helpline on 01603 222309

We need to save money



Norfolk County Council plays a large part in people's lives. We spend over a billion pounds each year on services.



We are facing some big challenges. Our population is growing, people are living longer, and people need different services.



Things are becoming more expensive and the amount of money we have coming in isn't keeping up.



Saving money each year

The amount of money we get from the government is going down.



We also get money from people who live in Norfolk. This is called council tax. We use this money to pay for people's services



We are asking people to pay more council tax but the money we get back won't be enough to pay for all our services.



This means we have to save money each year.

We have already saved lots of money



We have asked people in Norfolk about their ideas to save money. We have saved £364 million since 2011. That is a lot of money.

What do we need to do now?



Things have changed since last year. We now have to save more money. We have ideas about how to save £79 million by 2022



We have to find ideas about how to save another £46 million.



We have to make some difficult choices about how we spend our money.



We want to find out what you think about our idea to save money.



Please ask you carer or support worker to help you read our idea – these are the things we might change.

Our idea



The council wants to follow what the Government says about how much people can pay for their care.



We want to use some of the money we would save to help people find jobs and training.



We also want to spend some of the money we would save helping people manage their own money better.



This would mean making 2 changes to the way we work out how much people pay for their care.

1 Use different amounts for people's living costs. This means changing the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG)



When people pay for their care we look at what they can afford to pay.



The government says that people need a minimum amount of money to live on to pay for things like food and bills. The Government calls this the **Minimum Income Guarantee** or MIG.

£189.00

We use 1 amount for this. It is £189.00 a week for everyone.



The government says that we can use different amounts for different ages.



We want to use these amounts to work out how much people have to pay for their care.

£132.45

18 – 24 years old £132.45 a week

£151.45

25 – 64 years old £151.45 a week

£189.00

65 years old and over £189.00 a week



Other councils like Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire have already done this.

2 Changing what benefits we can take into account



The government tells us what benefits people can keep, on top of their Minimum Income Guarantee.



Personal Independent Payment (PIP) is a benefit that helps people with the extra costs of their disability.



PIP is made up of two parts.
One part is for getting about (mobility).



One part is for help with everyday living like washing and dressing (daily living).



Some people get more PIP because they need more help. This is called an 'enhanced rate'. People can keep this money.



The government says that we can ask people who get the 'enhanced rate' of daily living PIP to use it to help pay for their care.



We want to follow what the government says about the PIP.



If our idea went ahead people would **NOT** have to have a new PIP interview with the department of Work and Pensions (DWP)

Helping people find jobs



If our idea goes ahead, we would use some of the money we save to help people find training and jobs.



Disabled people in Norfolk have fewer jobs and opportunities than disabled people living in other parts of the country. We want to make this better.



We would spend up to £1 million on services to help people find training and jobs.



If our idea went ahead and we made all the changes at once the council could save £3 million.



What our idea means for people

If our idea went ahead it would change the amount people have to pay for their social care. We think this change might affect around 2,800 people.



We think around 400 people will carry on paying the same amount for their care.



Some people who don't pay for their care might have to in the future. We think 1,400 people might have to start paying something for their care.



We think that around 1,000 people might have to pay more for their care.



Everyone has different money coming in. This means people would be affected in different ways.



If you would like to talk to someone about what this means, please call our helpline on 01603 222309.

On the next pages there are 3 examples of how our idea could affect different people.

Susan



Susan is 24 years old.

She gets Universal Credit. She doesn't get the PIP daily living enhanced rate.

Susan's care costs £250 a week.

Susan gets £391.73 a week coming in.

Now:

Susan can keep £462.23 – that's made up of:

- Benefits £253.23
- Disability related expenses £20.00
- MIG £189

Susan has less money coming in than the amount she is allowed to keep.

Susan pays £0.00 for her care

If our idea goes ahead:

Susan can keep £405.68 – that's made up of:

- Benefits £253.23
- Disability related expenses £20.00
- MIG £132.45

Susan has more money coming in than the amount she is allowed to keep.

Susan pays £0.00 for her care

David



David is 35 years old.

He gets the enhanced rate of daily living PIP.

David's care costs £100 a week.

David gets £336.80 a week coming in.

Now:

David can keep £369.05 – that's made up of:

- Benefits £138.05
- Disability related expenses £42.00
- MIG £189

David has less money coming in than the amount he is allowed to keep.

David pays £0.00 for his care

If our idea goes ahead:

David can keep £303.15 – that's made up of:

- Benefits £109.75
- Disability related expenses £42.00
- MIG £151.40

David has more money coming in than the amount that he is allowed to keep.

David would have to pay towards his care. David would have to pay £33.65 a week.

Jim



Jim is 40 years old.

He gets the enhanced rate of daily living PIP.

Jim's care costs £200 a week.

Jim gets £336.80 a week coming in.

Now:

Jim can keep £296.95 – that's made up of:

- Benefits £88.05
- Disability related expenses £19.90
- MIG £189

Jim pays £39.85 a week for his care

If our idea goes ahead:

Jim can keep £231.05 – that's made up of:

- Benefits £59.75
- Disability related expenses £19.90
- MIG £151.40

Jim would have to pay £105.75 a week for his care. That's £65.90 a week more.

Helping people through this change



If this change went ahead, everyone would still get the amount of money the government says they need for living costs.



The council would support people to see if they have any more disability related expenses. People can keep these.



The council would help people claim all the benefits that they are entitled to.



The council would help people manage their money better.



The council would help people to find training or jobs.

When will this change be made?



This is just an idea at the moment.



If we change things we will write to people. We will let them know how much they will have to pay. We plan to write to people in April.



The change could happen in July 2019.



If the change happened in July, we would send people their new bills in September 2019.

We want to know what you think of our idea to save money

Please ask your carer or support worker to help you read our ideas – these are the plans for things we might change.



These plans are only ideas. We want to hear what you think of them.

It is very important that you tell us how you think our idea might affect you.



This is because what you say will help us to decide if we want to make the changes or not.

It will also help us know the best way to make any changes.



We won't change any services you get until we have told you and your family, or carer, how our final decisions affect you.

Tell us what you think



We want to know what you think about our plans to change our policy.

You have until **Sunday 23 December 2018** to tell us what you think.



You can fill out the form at the end of this paper and sent it back to us.



You can fill out the form on our website

www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget



You can send us an email

haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk



You can write to us at this address – **you do not have to put a stamp on it**

Freepost Plus RTCL-XSTT-JZSK, Norfolk County Council, Ground floor – south wing, County Hall, Martineau Lane, NORWICH, NR1 2DH



If you have any questions call us on our helpline

Telephone: 01603 222309

You can also

Email:

charging.policy@norfolk.gov.uk



You can also get some help from your care worker or day centre manager.









If you need this document in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please call us on 01603 222309, Text Relay on 18001 0344 800 8020 (textphone) or email as on haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk and we will do our best to help.

Fill in this form and send it back to us to tell us what you think of our idea

1 What do you think about our idea to use different amounts for people’s living costs?

Please tick  your answer

					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know







Why do you say that?

Please write your answer in the box



2 What do you think about our idea to change the amount of benefits people can keep?

Please tick  your answer

					
Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know

Why do you say that?

Please write your answer in the box



3 If we went ahead with the changes how would they affect you?



Please write your answer in the box

4 If we went ahead with the changes what help, or support would you need?

Please tick ☒ your answers

☐ Help to find work

☐ Help with claiming benefits

☐ Help with managing my money

If you can think of anything else that would help, please write this in the box.





About you

Please tell us about yourself

This will help us make sure we have listened to a range of people

We will keep your information safe.

We won't share it with anyone.

Please tick 

☐ I get care and support from the council

☐ I care for someone who gets support from the council

☐ My family or friends would be affected by this change

☐ I work for an organisation who supports people who may be affected by this change



If you are filling in this questionnaire on behalf of someone else, please provide their details in the next section.



Do you have a disability, learning difficulty or long-term health problem which means that there are some daily activities or work that you can't do that you would like to?



(Tick one box)

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you:  **(Tick one box)**



☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ I prefer to describe myself as (please write in here)

☐ I prefer not to say





How old are you? ☒ (Tick one box)

☐ Under 18

☐ 18-24

☐ 25-34

☐ 35-44

☐ 45-54

☐ 55-64

☐ 65-74

☐ 75-84

☐ 85 or older

☐ Prefer not to say



What is your ethnic background



(Tick one box)

☐ White British

☐ White Irish

☐ White other

☐ Mixed

☐ Asian or Asian British

☐ Black or Black British

☐ Prefer not to say

☐ Other ethnic background, please write in here:



What is your first language?

Please write in the box



What is the first part of your postcode (e.g. NR4)?

Please write in the box



Now put this form in an envelope and **send it back by 23 December 20-18** to:

Freepost Plus RTCL-XSTT-JZSK, Norfolk County Council, Ground floor, south wing, County Hall, Martineau Lane, NORWICH, NR1 2DH.

You do not need to use a stamp.

Thank you for telling us what you think

