



Your views on our idea to change the way we work out how much people pay for their non-residential care

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.



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 peoples 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 £344 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 need to save £125 million by 2021.

We must find more ways to save money.

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. Our idea is to change how we work out how much people who have a disability and live at home have to pay for their care.



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



Some people have to pay more for things because of their disability or illness. We call this **disability related expenditure or DRE**.



For example, some people need to pay for a community alarm system.



Or some people have to pay more for their food as they have a special diet.



We used to allow everyone £15 a week to pay for the things they need because of their disability or illness.



Last year we asked people what they thought of our idea to change this to £7.50 a week.



People told us they thought disabled people couldn't afford to pay more for their care.

Many people told us they wanted things to stay same.



People who agreed with our idea said they thought it was fair.



People told us to make it easy to say how much they spend on disability related expenditure.



We fed back what people told us to our county councillors. They decided to change the amount we allow. This change has saved us £1 million.



This means that we now take £7.50 a week off everyone's care bill so that they have enough money left to pay for the things they need because of the disability or illness.



Even if people do not spend £7.50 a week we still take this money off their care bill.



If people spend more than £7.50 a week on things because of their disability or illness we take the amount they actually spend off their care bill.

Our idea



We want to change the way we work out how much people have to pay for their care. Instead of allowing everyone the same amount, we want everyone to claim for the amount they actually spend.



If we did this we could save the council £400,000 in 2018/19.



This would change the amount people have to pay for their social care. We think this change might affect 3,872 people. We think 130 people might have to start paying something for their care.



We would ask people how much they spend on things because of their disability or illness. We call this **disability related expenditure or DRE**. We would ask to see people's receipts, bills or bank statements.

What this means for people



When we work out how much people have to pay for their care we would allow them the amount they actually spend on disability related expenditure.



If people spend over £7.50 a week on disability related expenditure we would ask them to pay less for their care. For example, if people currently spend £15 a week on disability related expenditure then we would take this amount of their care bill.



If they spend less than £7.50 a week on disability related expenditure they might have to pay more for their care.



If they don't pay for their care at the moment then they might have to in the future. They may have to pay up to £9.99 a week.

When will this change be made?



We won't change anything until we have consulted and listened to what people have said about this idea.



If we decide to change things we will do this in April 2018.



If we change things we will write to people to find out how much they spend on disability related expenditure. We will then let them know how much they will have to pay.

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 and we want to hear what you think about them.

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 spend less money.

You have until **Tuesday 2 January 2018** to tell us what you think.



You can tell us what you think

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

- On our website

www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget





- You can send us an email haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk



- You can write to us

Just fill in your form and put it in the envelope that came with this letter.

If you have lost your envelope you can send your form to 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 you can get in touch with us by:

Telephone: **01603 638440**



If you need it you can also get some help from your care worker or day centre manager.



Thank you for helping us by telling us what you think.



If you need this document in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact us on 01603 638440, Text Relay on 18001 0344 800 8020 (textphone) or email 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**



**What do you think of our idea to save money?
How do you think it would affect your life?**

Please write your answer in the box





About you

Please tell us about yourself

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

Please tick the right answers

I get care and support from the council

I care for someone who gets support from the council

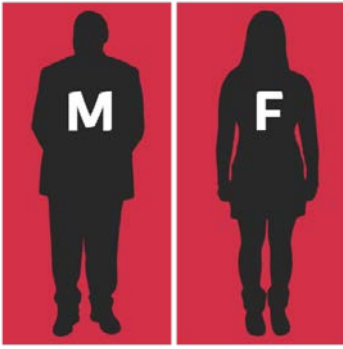
Do you have a disability, learning difficulty or long-term health problem which means that there are some daily activities or work that you can't do that you would like to? This includes problems that are due to old age.

Yes

No



If you are an advocate or carer, please provide the details of the person you are caring for – for the next questions.



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)

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)

- White background (e.g. British, European, Irish)
- Asian background (e.g. Bangladeshi, Indian, Pakistani)
- Black background (e.g. African, Carribean)
- Chinese background (e.g. Korean, Tibetan)
- Dual / Multiple Heritage (e.g. White and Asian, White and Black)
- Other (e.g. Gypsy, Romany, Irish Traveller)
- Prefer not to say



Now put this form in the envelope that come with your letter and **send it back by 2 January 2018**

If you have lost you envelope then send this form back 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