

# Your views on our proposal to change our Adult Social Care non-residential care charging policy.

## Overview

The Council faces difficult decisions to deliver on its ambitions for the people of Norfolk against a difficult economic climate and more than a decade of reduced funding. Each year, the Council reviews its budget and proposes the savings it will need to make for the following year to balance its budget.

We carried out our annual budget and council tax consultation for 2024/25 between October and December 2023. However, the Government’s autumn statement and provisional funding settlement, which followed our budget consultation, set out a worse funding position for local authorities than had previously been anticipated. As a result, the Council is £4m worse off than it had expected to be.

For 2024/25 the Council has proposed £41.5.m of new savings, some of which may require further consultation. This is one of those consultations. The Council is doing its best to protect key services, but faced with rising costs, rising demand and under-funding, it must make difficult decisions to balance the books.

In this consultation we are asking for your views on our proposal to change the non-residential Charging Policy by reducing the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) in line with the Government’s rates. The MIG is the term used to describe the minimum level of income that people receiving local authority arranged home care need to cover their living costs. It is the minimum amount people need before a charge can be applied by Norfolk County Council.

## Why we are consulting

We want to find out what people think about our proposal to making changes to the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). The proposed change would bring the council in line with the minimum level set by government and would affect people aged 18 to pension age.

We are consulting through:

- The online consultation, which is also available as a paper copy and in different formats

- Email /Letter to key stakeholders and partners

- Email /Letter to service users directly affected

-  A number of public drop-in sessions

- Information to help you facilitate a group conversation

- Email to members of the Norfolk Residents’ Panel

- One to one telephone calls with officers to discuss this proposal and feedback to us

The consultation runs from **Monday 19 February 2024 and closes 17 May 2024.**

Please note that if we receive any consultation responses after this date, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to take them into account.

We will feed back the findings from our consultation to our county councillors as part of the evidence they will use to help them come to a decision about our budget proposals.

If you need a copy of this consultation document in a different format please email haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk, call 0344 800 8020 or Text Relay on 18001 0344 800 8020 (textphone) and we will do our best to help.

The consultation questions should take about 20 minutes to complete.

The questions start on page 30 of this document.

## Personal information, confidentiality and data protection

We will use any personal information to understand how different groups of people feel about our proposal.

We will process any personal information we receive from you in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679), the Data Protection Act 2018 and Norfolk County Council’s data protection policy and guidelines. This means that Norfolk County Council will hold your personal data and only use it for the purpose for which it was collected, being this consultation. [You can find a copy of our privacy statement on the Norfolk County Council website.[[1]](#footnote-1)](https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/privacy)

We won't identify individuals when reporting back our findings and under our record management policy we will keep this information for five years. We will also, under normal circumstances, not pass your personal data on to anyone else. However, we may be asked under access to information laws to publish or disclose some, or all, of the information you provide in response to this consultation. We will only do this where such disclosure will comply with such relevant information laws which include the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

You can choose not to take part in the consultation, to stop responding at any time, or to ignore any personal questions that you do not want to answer.

## Introduction

Norfolk County Council is committed to making Norfolk a county where businesses, organisations and communities continue to thrive together. [Our Better Together, For Norfolk strategy](https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/corporate/council-vision-and-strategy)[[2]](#footnote-2) sets out our ambitions to be one of the highest performing countries in the country, overseeing economic growth, creating jobs and opportunities for the people of Norfolk, while maintaining and cherishing our environment, countryside and heritage.

However, we, like other upper tier local authorities, continue to face very significant pressures arising from rising costs driven by inflation, growth in demand and the National Living Wage.

Although the Council’s budget increases each year with Council Tax, it is not enough to meet growing needs and costs.

The October 2023 Cabinet meeting considered 2024-25 savings proposals totalling £26.5 million. [The 2023 Cabinet meeting minutes are available on the Norfolk County Council website.](https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/496/Meeting/2053/Committee/169/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx)[[3]](#footnote-3) They make a significant contribution towards our target of £41.5 million and will help the council to continue to deliver the key services for Norfolk’s residents, while balancing the books.

It is in these difficult times that the County Council cannot afford any complacency and, working with its partners, we consider how best to deploy our own limited resources to support the most vulnerable people and communities, whilst continuing to provide wider public services.

In this consultation we are proposing a change to the Adult Social Care Non-Residential Charging Policy, with a change to the Minimum Income Guarantee affecting working age adults. We are proposing this because Norfolk County Council has been allowing more than what the Government advised, but the local authority funding landscape has changed so much that the Council is now having to consult and ask for feedback about not paying more than the government level.

We want to hear your views on our proposals to help our elected councillors make the right, even tough decisions, in agreeing a robust and sustainable budget for the year ahead.

## Our current service

**Background information**

Adult Social Services provides mainly statutory services to people in Norfolk with eligible care needs. As these services must be provide by law, we need to look at all options available to us to ensure we can afford to keep supporting everyone who needs care.

One area we have reviewed again is our Non-Residential Charging Policy. As part of this we plan to consult on making changes to the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG).

The MIG is the term used to describe the minimum level of income that people receiving local authority arranged home care need to cover their living costs. It is the minimum amount of income a person must be left with before a charge can be applied by Norfolk County Council.

The policy sets out the way that we work out how much, if anything, to charge people for their non-residential care. We made changes to this before and following a legal challenge we reversed some of the changes. But we did not fully implement the changes to the MIG, and therefore we have looked again at this.

We currently provide chargeable non-residential adult social care services to just over 4,320working age adults. Non-residential services help meet people’s social care needs in the community. These services include things like:

· Help at home,

· Getting meals,

· Support with activities, such as going on trips,

· Help with education,

· Going to a day centre.

We can charge people for these services following a financial assessment to see how much, if anything, they can afford to pay.

Due to the financial assessment, not everyone pays for their care and currently around 1,870 people don’t have to make any financial contribution towards their care. Around 40 people are assessed as self-funding meaning they pay the full cost of their care as they have savings or capital assets over £23,250.

Just over 1,000 people pay the full cost of their care, as the cost of the care they receive is less than their assessed maximum weekly charge.

This leaves around 1,410 people who contribute something towards the cost of their care.

The way we carry out a financial assessment is set out in Norfolk County Council's Non-Residential Care Charging Policy [Norfolk County Council Adult Social Care Non-residential Charging Policy April 2023](https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/care-support-and-health/care-charges/adult-social-care-non-residential-charging-policy-april-2021.pdf)[[4]](#footnote-4)

In the financial assessment we see how much income people have coming in. We then consider people's costs for expenses such as housing costs, day-to-day living expenses and disability related expenses. We also check to see if people are claiming all the benefits that they are entitled to.

**Our current approach**

We carry out an assessment to see what people’s care needs are. If the assessment identifies that someone needs help, we will then carry out a financial assessment to see what people can afford to pay towards their care. The financial assessment looks at how much money people have coming in, as well as their expenses.

Under the [Care Act 2014](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted)[[5]](#footnote-5), the government says that we must make sure that people are left with a certain amount of money to live on to pay for things like food and some bills. This is called the Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). The government sets out different rates of MIG for councils to use when carrying out a financial assessment. These rates depend on people’s ages and circumstances.

The government says that when charging people for their care, the Council can’t reduce people’s income below the MIG. In Norfolk, we allow a rate higher than this. The council uses a MIG of £187.13 a week for people aged 18 – pension age, which is above the government rates.

This is just one part of the financial assessment. Depending upon an individual’s circumstances, there is other money that is not counted when deciding how much someone can contribute towards their care. This includes benefits that people get for housing, council tax and some costs specific to some disabilities, including mobility, plus any income from earnings. This will not change.

In addition, people with disabilities will have other costs due to their disabilities, these are known as disability related expenses (DRE). The Council has worked with people with lived experience and advocacy groups to improve how DREs are identified and taken into account. This is also not affected by this proposal.

**The Government rates for the MIG are shown below.**

Currently, the government rates for the Minimum Income Guarantee are:

* 18-24 - £150.25 – (moving to £160.30 on 8 April 2024)
* 25 – pension age - £171.75 – (moving to £183.25 on 8 April 2024)

In recent years the Government has increased the level of the Minimum Income Guarantee to reflect inflationary increases. This normally happens in April. If the MIG rates are increased by the Government, then the rates being proposed by the Council will reflect this.

We are not proposing to change the MIG for people who have reached pension credit age. This would remain at the Government minimum level which is currently £214.35 a week. Moving to £228.70 from 8 April 2024.

Rates also vary depending on whether people are single, in a couple or have children.

**Please note that within the options and worked examples found within this consultation, we have used existing rates (not future inflated rates), these align with the current charges that people should recognise. However, during this consultation period, from 19 February to 17 May, individuals affected by inflationary changes will receive communication about the higher MIG rates from April, the new charges and these will be applied before the end of this consultation.**

## Our proposal

We are proposing to make some changes to the Charging Policy and want your views on **two options.**

We know that both options might affect people in different ways. One of the reasons we are consulting is that we want people to tell us about any issues with our proposal and how they might be affected. We want to fully understand the impact our proposal would have on people. In the information that follows we have described the fullest impact on the financial contribution people might have to make towards their care.

The amount that people would have to pay would depend on their income, expenses and the amount of disability related expenses they have.

The proposed options we are putting forward will affect people who receive non-residential adult social care services where Norfolk County Council pays the care providers directly. They also affect people who receive direct payments to buy their own services.

The options will affect people who live in their own home and in the community including housing with care and supported living. It does not affect people who live in residential or nursing care settings.

The options will affect people with a care need, including disabled people, people with learning disabilities, people with mental health problems and those affected by substance misuse.

Many people who receive non-residential care would not be affected by our proposal as their income would still be below the minimum amount for living expenses (MIG) that we have to consider.

People with savings over £23,250 would still need to pay the full cost of their care.

If people receive a direct payment to purchase their own non-residential care, they might have to change the amount they contribute to their personal direct payments account.

If we decide to change anything, before we would make any changes, we would write to people about any changes and offer to carry out a full financial assessment for them. We would look at all the money they have coming in, how much they spend and if there are any benefits they might be entitled to that they are not already claiming.

**Now we will look at the two proposed options in more detail.**

**Option 1: Reduce the Minimum Income Guarantee for 18-year-old to pension age from the current NCC rate of £187.13 to government rates for** **25-year old to pension age, which is currently £171.75**

Option 1 proposes to reduce the rate of the Minimum Income Guarantee to the government rates for 25-pension age. This rate would apply to everyone aged 18-pension age. Although we recognise that this will have a financial impact for some people, this change will bring the Council in line with many other Councils and will help to provide additional resources to help us meet our wider statutory responsibilities. This proposal would save us £1.2m per year. Depending upon whether any changes are implemented, and if so when, there would be only a part year saving in 2024-25.

**Impact of Option 1**

* Around 470 people would not be affected by this change
* Around 1,220 people would continue to pay nothing towards their care because their income would remain below the MIG rate
* Around 1,030 people would continue to pay the same amount
* Around 1,600 people would be affected by this change. Of which:
* Around 210 people might have to start paying for their care for the first time
* Around 1,390 people might have to pay more for their care
* People who are affected might have to pay between £2.50 and £18.00 a week more for their care, depending on their financial circumstances.

The following three case studies show some examples of how Option 1 would impact financially on different people with different circumstances. Please note that all examples are based on the current rate not the Government rate that will be applied in April 2024.

**Option 1: Case Study**

**Person A is 22 years of age and lives at home with parents.**

**Weekly care package: 2 sessions of day care and 6 hours of a personal assistant for supported activities. Total weekly cost £201.08.**

**Total weekly income is £240.27, made up of:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Daily Living standard rate | £68.10 |
| PIP Mobility – high rate | £71.00 |
| Universal Credit - standard allowance single under 25  | £67.41 |
| Universal Credit – limited capability for work | £33.76 |

**What will change?**

|  | **Current** | **Proposed** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total weekly income | £240.27 | £240.27 |
| **Income we ignore (not counted as income in the financial assessment)** |  |  |
| PIP Mobility | £71.00 | £71.00 |
| PIP Daily Living enhanced rate disregard | N/A | N/A |
| **Income we** **take into account** | **£169.27** | **£169.27** |
| **Minimum Income Guarantee applied**  | **£187.13** | **£171.75** |
| Assessed weekly contribution | **NIL** | **NIL** |
| Weekly income a person keeps | **£240.27** | **£240.27** |

Person A will remain as NIL charge and will not be affected by the proposed change.

**Option 1: Case Study Person B is 45 and is in supported living accommodation.**

**Weekly care package; Supported Living weekly 52 weeks and 12 hours additional support per week. Total weekly cost £614.22.**

**Total weekly income is £398.20, made up of:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) | £225.45 |
| PIP Daily Living – enhanced rate | £101.75 |
| PIP Mobility - high rate | £71.00 |

**What will change?**

|  | **Current** | **Proposed** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total weekly income | £398.20 | £398.20 |
| **Income we ignore (not counted in the financial assessment)** |  |  |
| PIP Mobility | £71.00 | £71.00 |
| PIP Daily Living enhanced rate disregard | £33.65 | £33.65 |
| **Income we** **take into account** | **£293.55** | **£293.55** |
| **Minimum Income Guarantee applied** | **£187.13** | **£171.75** |
| Assessed weekly contribution | **£106.42** | **121.80** |
| Weekly income a person keeps | **£291.78** | **£276.40** |

Person B’s weekly assessed charge will increase by £15.38.

**Due to their living arrangements Person B will have a liability for rent and council tax costs. As they are in receipt of ESA, they will be in entitled to full housing benefit for their rent costs** **and also full council tax reduction. This means that they will not have to pay housing costs from their weekly income.**

**Option 1 Case Study: Person C is 55, single and lives with family.**

**Weekly care package: 14 hours of home support. 4 sessions of day care. Total weekly cost £426.68.**

Total weekly income is £347.85, made up of:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Universal Credit – standard allowance for 25+ | £85.09 |
| Universal Credit – limited capability for work- & work-related activities | £90.01 |
| PIP Daily Living – enhanced rate | £101.75 |
| PIP Mobility - High Rate | £71.00 |

**What will change?**

|  | **Current** | **Proposed** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total weekly income | £347.85 | £347.85 |
| **Income we ignore (not counted in the financial assessment)** |  |  |
| PIP Mobility | £71.00 | £71.00 |
| PIP Daily Living enhanced rate disregard | £33.65 | £33.65 |
| Disability Related Expenditure (DRE) | £5.00 | £5.00 |
| **Income we take into account** | **£238.20** | **£238.20** |
| **Minimum Income Guarantee applied** | **£187.13** | **£171.75** |
| Assessed weekly contribution | **£51.07** | **£66.45** |
| Weekly income a person keeps | **£296.78** | **£281.40** |

Person C’s weekly assessed charge will increase by £15.38.

**Option 2: Reduce to the government rate for people aged 25 to pension age of £171.75** **and, also introduce a reduced rate for people aged 18 to 24 of £150.25.**

The Government rates include a lower rate for people aged 18-24. In addition to changing the rate for people aged 25-pension age, we could introduce another rate of Minimum Income Guarantee at a lower level for people aged 18-24. This would bring the Council in line with all the government’s rates. This would provide an estimated £1.290m in additional income for the Council. This would create two different rates dependent upon age. Compared to the current position, it would mean a larger reduction for people aged 18-24.

**Impact of Option 2**

**18–24-year-olds – there are currently around 570 people in this age group.**

* Around 365 people would continue to pay nothing towards their care because e.g. their income would remain below the MIG rate
* Around 110 people would continue to pay the same amount
* Around 95 people will be affected by this change of that:
* Around 20 people might have to start paying for their care for the first time
* Around 75 people might have to pay more for their care
* People who are affected might have to pay between £2.50 and £40.00 a week more for their care, depending on their financial circumstances. Around 75 people in that age group will see their weekly charge increase by more than £20.00 per week.

**People 25 – pension age – there are currently around 3750 people in this age group.**

* Around 1305 people would continue to pay nothing towards their care because their income would remain below the MIG rate
* Around 940 people would continue to pay the same amount
* Around 1505 people will be affected by this change of that:
* Around 190 people might have to start paying for their care for the first time
* Around 1315 people might have to pay more for their care
* People who are affected might have to pay between £2.50 and £18.00 a week more for their care, depending on their financial circumstances. Around 1390 people in that age group will see their weekly charge increase by more than £10.00 per week.

**Option 2: Case Study: Person D is 23 years of age and lives alone.**

**Weekly care package: 21 hours per week home support. 6 hours floating support. Total cost £651.24**

**Total weekly income is £273.92, made up of:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PIP Daily Living – enhanced rate | £101.75 |
| PIP Mobility – high rate | £71.00 |
| Universal Credit - standard allowance single under 25  | £67.41 |
| Universal Credit – limited capability for work | £33.76 |

**What will change?**

|  | **Current** | **Proposed** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total weekly income | £273.92 | £273.92 |
| **Income we ignore (not counted as income in the financial assessment)** |  |  |
| PIP Mobility | £71.00 | £71.00 |
| PIP Daily Living enhanced rate disregard | £33.65 | £33.65 |
| Disability Related expenditure  | £12.00 | £12.00 |
| **Income we** **take into account** | **£157.27** | **£157.27** |
| **Minimum Income Guarantee applied**  | **£187.13** | **£150.25** |
| Assessed weekly contribution | **NIL** | **£7.02** |
| Weekly income a person keeps | **£273.92** | **£266.90** |

Person D’s weekly assessed charge will increase from NIL to £7.02.

Due to their living arrangements person D will have a liability for rent and council tax costs. As they are in receipt of Universal Credit, they will be entitled to full housing benefit for their rent costs and full council tax reduction. This means that they will not have to pay housing costs from their weekly income.

**Option 2: Case Study: Person E is 19 years old and lives at home with parents.**

**Weekly care package: 3 sessions of day care. 10 hours supported activities. Total cost £475.20.**

**Total weekly income is £286.07, made up of:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PIP Daily Living – enhanced rate | £101.75 |
| PIP Mobility – low rate | £26.90 |
| Universal Credit - standard allowance single under 25 | £67.41 |
| Universal Credit – limited capability for work- and work-related activity | £90.01 |

**What will change?**

|  | **Current** | **Proposed** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total weekly income | £286.07 | £286.07 |
| **Income we ignore (not counted as income in the financial assessment)** |  |  |
| PIP Mobility | £26.90 | £26.90 |
| PIP Daily Living enhanced rate disregard | £33.65 | £33.65 |
| **Income we** **take into account** | **£225.52** | **£225.52** |
| **Minimum Income Guarantee applied**  | **£187.13** | **£150.25** |
| Assessed weekly contribution | **£38.39** | **£75.27** |
| Weekly income a person keeps | **£247.68** | **£210.80** |

Person E’s weekly assessed charge will increase by £36.88.

**Other considerations**

As part of the need to review our charging policy we have also considered whether we should maintain the existing charging policy. This was an interim one that was applied following the legal judgement as part of the Judicial Review and therefore did not have a rigorous process applied or scrutiny. Although maintaining the status quo would have less impact and worry for individuals and families, it would mean that we have not provided an opportunity for others to respond. Retaining the current policy would not deliver savings and would mean that there is less resource available to meet our responsibilities to deliver adult social care to all residents in Norfolk with unmet eligible care needs.

We also considered a change to the maximum disposable income that can be taken into account as part of someone’s financial assessment.

We currently take into account 100% of someone’s maximum disposable income after disallowing income from relevant benefits and earnings that are not to be considered, such as housing benefits, council tax benefits and earnings. We considered the impact of applying a lower percentage, such as 90% (i.e. an extra 10% of people’s allowable income that would be not be taken into account for the calculation of charges).

Reducing the percentage taken into account would increase the income that people retain. For example, a change to 90% would reduce income to the Council by £1.7m compared to our current position and would therefore reduce available funding to meet our adult social care statutory responsibilities.

In addition, as people with higher needs are more likely to have more of their income already not taken into consideration for charging purposes, the benefit is less impactful for people with higher needs. It is therefore not considered an effective mechanism to align resources to need.

Applying a generic percentage reduction would reduce the amount of income that the council would receive and taking into account the wider financial challenges for the Council at present, it is not considered that this option would either be affordable or provide an effective tool for use of resources aligned to need.

## Our minimum income guarantee questions

**Q1. How far do you agree or disagree with Option 1 to reduce the Minimum Income Guarantee for 18-year-old to pension age from the current NCC rate of £187.13 to government rates for 25-year old to pension age, which is currently £171.75?**

Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

[ ]  Strongly agree

[ ]  Agree

[ ]  Neither agree nor disagree

[ ]  Disagree

[ ]  Strongly disagree

[ ]  Don’t know

**Please tell us more about why you chose that answer and whether you have any other comments on the proposal, using the box below:**

Please write your comments here:

**Q2. How far do you agree or disagree with Option 2 to reduce the government rate for people aged 25 to pension age of £171.75 and also introduce a reduced rate for people aged 18 to 24 of £150.25?**

Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

[ ]  Strongly agree

[ ]  Agree

[ ]  Neither agree or disagree

[ ]  Disagree

[ ]  Strongly disagree

**Please tell us more about why you chose that answer and whether you have any other comments on the proposal, using the box below:**

Please write your comments here:

**Q3.** If you would be affected by either of the options, what extra support, if any, would you need? Please tell us in the box below**:**

Please write your comments here:

**Q4.** Have you any other comments on either of the options? Please tell us using the box below**:**

Please write your comments here:

# About you

To make sure we are learning from a wide range of people – we would like to ask some questions about you. These are optional questions (so you may choose not to give this information), but this information is helpful to understand who is responding to our consultations.

Q1. **Please tell us in what capacity (most closely) you are completing the questionnaire. This will help us to understand if we are getting a broad range of views..**

Please select the option that most closely represents how you will be responding.

[ ]  As a Norfolk resident

[ ]  As a resident elsewhere (not Norfolk)

[ ]  As a representative of a local community group

[ ]  On behalf of a school or college or other education setting

[ ]  On behalf of a Parish/town/Borough/District Council

[ ]  As an elected member

[ ]  As a care provider

[ ]  As a business owner

[ ]  On behalf of a charity, voluntary or community sector organisation

[ ]  As a Norfolk County Council employee

[ ]  As a Carer on behalf of yourself

[ ]  As a Carer on behalf of someone else

[ ]  Mix of the above

[ ]  Other

If you ticked ‘Other’, please specify here:

**Q1a. If you are responding on behalf of a Voluntary or Community sector organisation, please tell us the organisation below:**

Please state organisation here:

**Q2. Postcode**

As Norfolk is a rural county we would like to understand if we are getting a good geographical range of views. Please only give us the first half of your postcode.

Please write your postcode here:

**Q3.** **How did you find out about this consultation?** Please choose **one** answer only:

[ ]  Local media (e.g. newspaper, radio)

[ ]  From a social media post (e.g. Facebook)

[ ]  From a friend

[ ]  From a group I belong to

[ ]  From my place of work or education

[ ]  The Norfolk Residents' Panel

[ ]  District Council web page

[ ]  Norfolk County Council web page

[ ]  My Parish Council

[ ]  From an email I received from Norfolk County Council

[ ]  From a letter I have received from Norfolk County Council

**Q4. We want to know how different groups of people could be affected, and we would like to know if you are:** Please choose **one** answer only:

[ ]  Living in family home

[ ]  Living in own home

[ ]  Living in privately rented home

[ ]  Living in council/housing association home

[ ]  Living in Supported Living

[ ]  Other

If you ticked ‘Other’, please specify here:

**Q5.** **Are you...?** Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

[ ]  Male

[ ]  Female

[ ]  Prefer not to say

[ ]  Prefer to self-describe (please specify below)

If you prefer to self-describe, please specify here:

**Q6.** **How old are you?** Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

[ ]  Under 18

[ ]  18-24

[ ]  25-34

[ ]  35-44

[ ]  45-54

[ ]  55-64

[ ]  65-74

[ ]  75-84

[ ]  85+

[ ]  Prefer not to say

**Q7.** **Do you have any long-term illness, disability or health problem that limits your daily activities or the work you can do?** Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

[ ]  Prefer not to say

**Q8.** **If yes which of the following best describes your condition or disability?** Please select **all** answers that apply:

[ ]  Blind or partially sighted

[ ]  Deaf or hard of hearing

[ ]  Limiting health condition e.g. heart disease, asthma, stroke, osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia and magic encephalomyelitis (ME)

[ ]  Learning Disabilities

[ ]  Neurodiversity e.g. autistic spectrum disorders, dyslexia, dyspraxia

[ ]  Mental health conditions e.g. depression, schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorders, eating disorders, obsessive compulsive disorder

[ ]  Physical disability e.g. limb disorder, amputee, wheelchair user, cerebral palsy, motor neurone disease, muscular dystrophy

If you have another type of disability not listed above, please write here:

[ ]  Prefer not to say

**Q9.** **How would you describe your ethnic background?**

Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

**Asian or Asian British**

[ ]  Asian British

[ ]  Indian

[ ]  Pakistani

[ ]  Bangladeshi

[ ]  Chinese

Any other Asian background, please describe here:

**Black, Black British, Caribbean, or African**

[ ]  Black British

[ ]  Caribbean

[ ]  African

Any other Black, Black British, or Caribbean background, please describe here:

**Mixed or multiple ethnic groups**

[ ]  White and Black Caribbean

[ ]  White and Black African

[ ]  White and Asian

Any other mixed or multiple group, please describe here:

**White**

[ ]  English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British Irish

[ ]  Gypsy or Irish Traveller

[ ]  Roma

Other White background, please describe here:

**Another ethnic group**

[ ]  Arab

Any other ethnic group please describe here:

[ ]  Prefer not to say

**Q10. Which district/borough/city do you live in?** Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

  [ ]  Breckland

  [ ]  Broadland

  [ ]  Great Yarmouth

  [ ]  Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

  [ ]  North Norfolk

  [ ]  Norwich

  [ ]  South Norfolk

**Q11. Do you have caring responsibilities?** Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

  [ ]  No

  [ ]  Yes – for children with additional needs

  [ ]  Yes – for older family members/ Adults

  [ ]  Yes - Parent Carer

  [ ]  Yes – for a disabled adult(s)

Yes, other. Please write here:

**Q12. Which of the following best describes you?** Please choose **one** answer only from the list below:

[ ]  Employed (full time)

[ ]  Employed (part time)

[ ]  Self-employed

[ ]  Unemployed

[ ]  Student

[ ]  Looking after the family home

[ ]  Long term sick

[ ]  Retired

**Q13.** **What is your first language?**

[ ]  English

Other, please write here:

## How we will make our decision and report back to you

We will take a report about the findings of this consultation to July Cabinet.

Our county councillors will consider the consultation responses we receive very carefully. In particular, they will take into account:

* The impact of any proposal on individuals, groups or communities and in particular on people identified as having 'protected characteristics' under the Equality Act 2010. The protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation.  As well as this equality impact assessment, councillors will consider the impact of proposals on rural areas
* The views of people and stakeholders consulted
* The evidence of need and what is proven to work effectively and well
* The financial and legal positions and any constraints at the time
* Any potential alternative options, models or ideas for making the savings.

**Your opinions are valuable to us. Thank you for taking the time to read this and respond.**

**You can fill in our online feedback form at:** [www.norfolk.gov.uk/savingsproposals](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/savingsproposals)

**You can email return your feedback form to:** haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk

You can send back a paper feedback form to:

The Minimum Income Guarantee CONSULTATION 2024/25

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

However, if you want to help the council save money, please use a stamp and send to this address: Stakeholder and Consultation Team, Norfolk County Council, Ground floor - south wing, County Hall, Martineau Lane, NR1 2DH.

You may wish to keep a copy of your response to our consultation for your own records.

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

1. https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/privacy [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/corporate/council-vision-and-strategy [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/496/Meeting/2053/Committee/169/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/care-support-and-health/care-charges/adult-social-care-non-residential-charging-policy-april-2021.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)