

Have Your Say: Disability Related Expenditure (DRE) Survey

Proposed changes to Leicester City Council's financial assessment for adults who live at home and are eligible for help from adult social care

Please complete this survey and send it back to us before **28 September 2018**, or alternatively complete the survey online at: consultations.leicester.gov.uk

Who is this survey for?

This questionnaire has been sent to you because you are eligible for help from adult social care or you are a relative or representative of someone who gets help from adult social care. This survey is also on the council's website and can be filled in by anyone, not just those who receive help from adult social care.

What are we proposing?

The council is considering changing the financial assessment for people who receive non-residential care. Everyone who is eligible for adult social care has a financial assessment to work out if they have to pay towards the cost of their care, and if so, how much. The assessment criteria are outlined in the council's charging policy, which can be found at:

www.leicester.gov.uk/financial-assessment

The financial assessment takes into account extra expenses people may have because of their disability. This is called **Disability Related Expenditure (DRE)**. Some examples of disability related expenditure include additional gas or electricity usage, additional water usage, travel costs, community alarms, gardening and dietary needs.

We are proposing to change the amount allowed for disability related expenditure per week to bring it in line with the average cost of such expenditure in Leicester and to make it fair.

Have your say

We want to hear your views on the proposed changes. No changes can be made until the City Mayor and his Executive team have considered the findings of the survey. The consultation will run from 3 July to 28 September 2018.

If you want to talk to someone about the survey or you need support to complete it, please call our helpline on **0116 454 4400** or e-mail us at: **ASCconsultations@leicester.gov.uk**

We would like to ask you some questions to understand how you feel about the proposals. We also want to know how you think they might affect you.

Question 1

About you - Please tick the box that applies.

If you are filling this in on behalf of someone else, please tick the box that applies to them.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| a) I get help with care and support from Leicester City Council (adult social care) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) I am the carer or representative of someone who gets help with care and support from the council (adult social care) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) I belong to an organisation that works with vulnerable adults in Leicester | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Other (please state) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Proposal

How does disability related expenditure work now?

The council does a financial assessment to check the money people have and whether they can afford to pay towards their services. This helps us to work out if a person has to pay for their care and support and how much.

Some people have extra expenses because of a disability and we take this into consideration during the financial assessment. Currently we allow a minimum amount of £20 per week towards disability related expenditure for a single person and a minimum of £15 a week, for one of a couple. We do allow people more than the set amount, if they can show that their expenses are higher.

What does the council want to change and why?

We want to change the amount for disability related expenditure so that a minimum of £10 per week is allowed for everyone.

We have worked out that on average most people in Leicester have disability related expenses of £7.50 per week, and so reducing the amount to a minimum of £10 per week is closer to what people actually spend. We think this proposal is fairer.

It means that everyone is treated the same, whether they are single or part of a couple. The council would continue to allow people more than the set amount if they could show that their expenses are higher, due to their disability. This would help the council spend its money more wisely so that as many people as possible can get help.

Question 2

The council wants to reduce the amount allowed for disability related expenditure to a minimum of £10 per week (whether single or one of a couple).

What do you think about this?

a) I **agree** with the proposal

b) I **disagree** with this proposal

c) I do not have a view

Please tell us why you agree or disagree with this proposal and any other comments you may have



How you may be affected by the change

If this change is agreed, almost half of the people (49%) that are eligible for adult social care are unlikely to see any change at all. They will either pay nothing as they do now, or will continue to pay the same amount each week. This is because their income is too low, or they are already paying the full cost of their services.

Whilst many people will not be asked to pay more, some people will be. Some people could start paying for the first time. The highest increase anyone would have to pay is £10 per week.

We want to understand what concerns people may have, if they were asked to pay more towards their care.

Question 3

If you were asked to pay £10 a week more towards your care due to the change in the amount allowed for disability related expenditure, how would this affect you?

If you are not a service user, please answer how you think others may be affected by the change.

Please tick all that apply.

- a) I would be able to manage this
- b) The change would affect me a little. This could affect how much I have for extras or treats
- c) The change would affect me a lot. This could affect how much I have for essentials
- d) I would think about whether I want to carry on getting help from adult social care

Equalities monitoring

In order to meet your needs and improve service we need to know a bit more about you. Please help us by completing this form which describes how you see yourself. If completing the survey on behalf of someone else, please fill in their details. This information will be kept confidential and is for our monitoring use only.

Ethnic background

Asian or Asian British

- Bangladeshi
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Any other Asian background
(Please state) _____

Black or Black British

- African
- Caribbean
- Somali
- Any other Black background
(Please state) _____

Dual/multiple heritage

- White & Asian
- White & Black African
- White & Black Caribbean
- Any other heritage background
(Please state) _____

White

- British
- European
- Irish
- Any other White background
(Please state) _____

Chinese

- Chinese
- Any other Chinese background
(Please state) _____

Other ethnic group

- Gypsy/Romany/Irish traveller
- Any other ethnic group
(Please state) _____

- Prefer not to say

Gender identity

Male

Female

Other (e.g. pangender, non-binary etc.)

(Please state) _____

Prefer not to say

Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were assigned at birth?

Yes

No

Age

Under 18

18 - 25

26 - 35

36 - 45

46 - 55

56 - 65

66+

Prefer not to say

Disability

The Equality Act 2010 defines a person as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities and has lasted or is likely to last for at least 12 months. People with HIV, cancer, multiple sclerosis (MS) and severe disfigurement are also covered by the Equality Act.



Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person?

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

If you have answered 'Yes' to the above, please state the type of impairment that applies to you. People may experience more than one type of impairment, in which case you may need to tick more than one box. If none of the categories apply, please tick 'Other' and state the type of impairment.

A long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy

A mental health difficulty, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder

A physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches

A social/communication impairment such as a speech and language impairment or Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder

A specific learning difficulty or disability such as Down's syndrome, dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D

Blind or have a visual impairment uncorrected by glasses

Deaf or have a hearing impairment

An impairment, health condition or learning difference that is not listed above (specify if you wish)

Prefer not to say

If 'Other', please state: _____



Sexual orientation

- Bisexual
- Gay/lesbian
- Heterosexual/straight
- Other
- (Please state) _____
- Prefer not to say

Religion or belief

- Atheist
- Bahai
- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jain
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- No religion
- Any other religion or belief
- (Please state) _____
- Prefer not to say



Postcode

Please note: we collect postcode data to gain a better understanding of which parts of the city/county respond to our consultations. We cannot identify individual properties or addresses from this information.

Postcode _____

The information you provide in this final section of the survey will be kept in accordance with terms of current data protection legislation and will only be used for the purpose of monitoring. Your details will not be passed on to any other individual, organisation or group. Leicester City Council is the data controller for the information on this form for the purposes of current data protection legislation.

Please return your completed survey to:

DRE Consultation
Bosworth House
1st floor – West Wing
Leicester LE1 6TH

