

ADULT SOCIAL CARE CHARGING REFORMS

C&I Scrutiny

Adult Social Care Charging Reforms

“Protecting individuals and families against unpredictable and potentially catastrophic care costs”

- From October 2023, no eligible person starting adult social care will have to pay more than **£86,000** for personal care over their lifetime.
- Only money spent on **personal care needs** will count towards the cap – ‘Daily Living Costs’ (DLCs) and Top-ups are not included
- **The means test will be more generous** – upper capital threshold will increase from £23,250 - £100,000 the lower threshold moves from £14,250 - £20,000
- The reforms mean **more people will qualify** for local authority assistance than previously which will have significant implications across all of our services
- NYCC has agreed to become one of five national **trailblazer** sites which will implement the reforms in **January 2023**.

The Cap

- Only what people pay themselves (not LA contribution)
- For self-funders who arrange their own care, progress towards the cap will be based on what the cost would be to the local authority if it were to meet their eligible care needs – but LA needs to be able to check that appropriate care is being provided
- Does not include Daily Living Costs
- Does not include 3rd Party Top-ups

Top-ups

- A person has a right to express a preference for particular accommodation of that type. The local authority can then charge for the additional cost over and above what the local authority would usually pay. This includes a preference for more expensive accommodation of the same type.
- Government intends to change the regulations to enable everyone receiving local authority financial support, which will include those who have reached the cap, to fund top-ups for their own care through their own means, where they can afford it.
- Where a local authority determines that a person is unable to pay a top up, it will be allowed to refuse the request. It is to the discretion of the local authority to determine when a person is unable and able to pay.

~~October~~ January 2023



Becoming a Trailblazer

- Charging reform is needed (even if we have concerns about the details)
- If it works well, then early implementation will bring benefits to the population of NY earlier than elsewhere
- We have high numbers of providers, high number of self funders and have remote rural and coastal communities – very different from many of the other Trailblazers
- Labour market competitiveness: it is unlike to be any easier to recruit for extra capacity in Summer/Autumn 2023 when the reforms are implemented across England
- We have to do it anyway so why not do so with support and be able to influence
- We have formal review points with DHSC in June, Aug/Sept and Nov 22

Opportunities

- Deliver early benefits for North Yorkshire residents
- If we can, use this and the APL procurement, to re-design our relationship with the care sector and help to provide stability to providers
- Drive self-service and a new approach to social care, with specialist staff focused on higher need people
- Timing – early opportunity to influence and to secure resources/test things out

Challenges

- It could break the bank! Especially section 18(3)
- Some people in some housing markets, even in NY, may still have to sell their homes
- Political sensitivities
- Systems, data and IT – trying to sort some tricky issues in 3-9 months!
- Workforce supply
- Timing – combined with LGR and CQC Assurance Framework

National Trailblazer work streams and issues

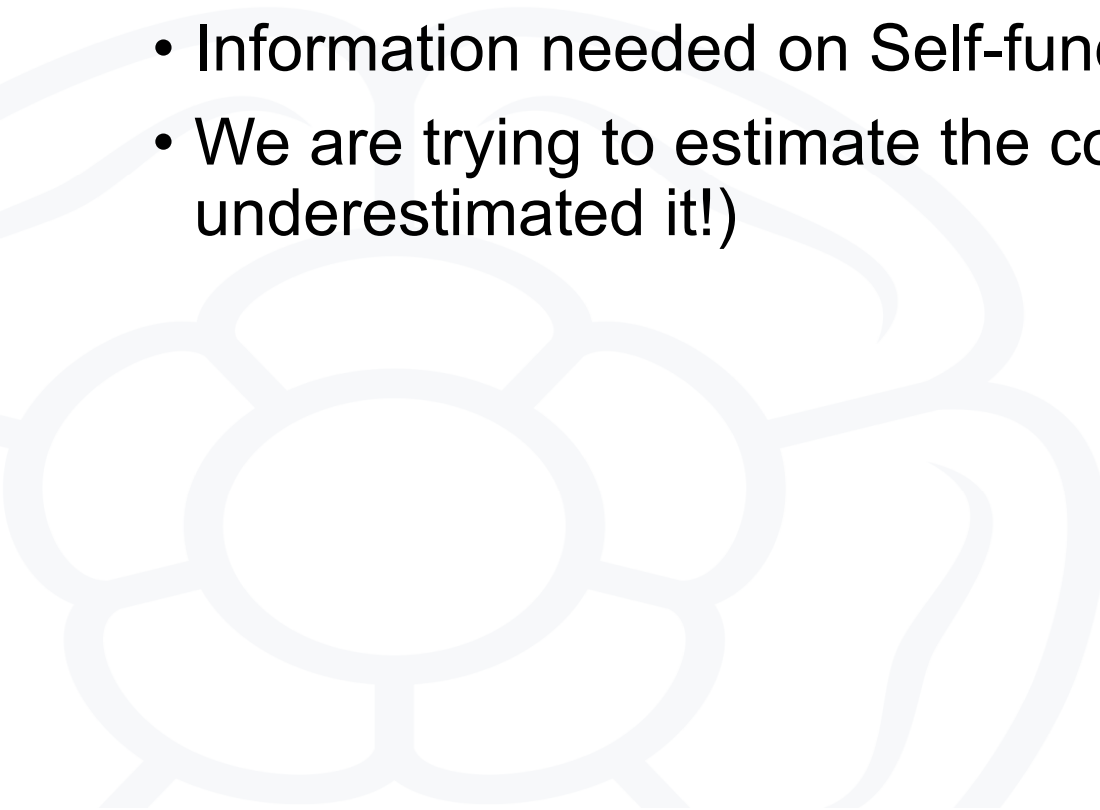
Work streams

- Operating Model
- Fair Cost of Care
- Workforce
- IT/data

Issues

- Operational Guidance
- Section 18(3)
- Provider readiness
- Communications
- Interface with the NHS

Preparation

- Raising Awareness
 - Fair Cost of Care exercise Approved Provider List procurement
 - Information needed on Self-funders
 - We are trying to estimate the costs of this (we think DHSC has underestimated it!)
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Timeline

- ✓ Late 2021/Early 2022 – 2 Government’s Adult Social Care White Papers published including details for charging reform
- ✓ March 22 – government announced trailblazer sites - [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) recognition that there is still considerable detail and risk to be worked through)
- 19 April 22 - NYCC exec decision (submission by 12th) and Management board discussion.
- 6th May – submit our response to the ‘Digital readiness survey’
- 9 May Internal workshop - setting out the programme plan & key workstream areas
- End of May - post election review point - *DHSC has also agreed an additional review point for North Yorkshire in May 2022, following Executive and the May council elections*
- *June 2022, the Department will finalise operational guidance for charging reform; including taking account of any transitional arrangements for commencement of s.18(3). At this point, trailblazers are invited to adopt the approach for commencing s.18(3) that the Department will confirm nationally. By this point, the Recipient will be able to discuss what the s.18(3) approach will mean for their authority and make a decision about how they continue participating in the Trailblazer initiative”*
- June 22 – Technical spec available for all care record management system providers.
- August 22 – formal review prior to early assessments
- September 22 – early assessments (additional workforce needs modelling)
- November 22 – formal review prior to legislation
- January 23 – trailblazers early implementation
- October 23 – national go live

Summary & Next Steps

- Established a corporate programme management approach in May 2022 – balancing local and national inputs/requirements
- Model the workforce impact/numbers & map customer journeys across North Yorkshire to support the early implementation of the reforms by January 2023
- Understand our digital readiness in comparison to other LA's
- Co-production of further operational guidance with DHSC to assist the national roll out in October 2023
- Strategically work with other 4 trailblazers and key suppliers to develop supporting IT systems
- Work with key local stakeholders to understand the impact across the system of the charging reforms
- Implement communication plans in partnership with DHSC to support and inform individuals and their families/carers in North Yorkshire