

Fact Sheet 4: Charging and Costs

This sheet provides information about how we work out the amount you need to contribute towards your care

We have provided some information below about paying for transport services. For more information please request the leaflet ***“What will you have to contribute for your non-residential care services?”*** from the Fairer Charging Team. They can be contacted on 01782 236620 or emailed on fairer.charging@stoke.gov.uk;



How do you decide what I can afford to pay?



The amount you need to pay towards the cost of your services will depend on your individual circumstances.

Once it has been agreed that you will have Adult Social Care funded services someone from our Fairer Charging Team will come and visit you to discuss your finances. We call this a **financial assessment**.

As part of the Financial Assessment we look at your weekly **income, debt, capital, and out-goings** to work out what you can afford to contribute towards your non-residential services, which includes transport. When we come to visit you we will explain it all to you.



If you need more information about how charges are calculated see above leaflet.

How much does Transport cost?

The amount Transport services cost depends on who provides the service.



- Some transport services are provided directly or coordinated by the City Council's Transport Team.
- Some transport services are provided by external organisations who we pay to provide day opportunities. We pay these organisations to provide transport to and from their services.

This means that sometimes people are not able to choose who provides their transport.

As some people's transport may be more expensive than others, we worked out a notional average cost for transport services which is currently £4 each way (£8 for a return journey).

If a person can afford to pay for all of their care, they will be asked to pay the actual cost of the service or £4, whichever is the lowest amount.

Examples:

- Example 1) If your transport service costs £2 each way, the maximum you would be asked to pay is £2 each way. This is because the actual cost of the service is lower than £4.
- Example 2) If your transport service costs £6 each way, the maximum you would be asked to pay is £4 each way. This is because £4 is lower than the actual cost of the service.

These are examples. The amount you will have to contribute will depend on your financial assessment and the services you are receiving.

Questions & Answers

I have already had a Fairer Charging Assessment; do I have to have another one?

If you have had a Fairer Charging Assessment you will only need another one if your circumstances change or at the time of your annual financial review.

If it's not time for your review and nothing has changed in relation to your finances you will not need to have another financial assessment. If you pay towards your services we will just check to see if the amount you pay will change because of your transport services.

I have had a Fairer Charging Assessment and been told that I cannot afford to contribute towards the cost of my services. Will I need to pay for my transport service?

No, provided that your circumstances don't change. Your financial assessment looks at how much you can afford to pay towards the non-residential care services which Adult Social Care pays for. Please note this does not include respite/short breaks. If you have been assessed as not able to contribute to these services, you will not have to contribute towards the cost of your transport service.



For more information about your charge for services please contact the Fairer Charging Team on **01782 236620**.