

Example 1

Mr Brown is an 88 year old man living alone, who is looked after by a carer in receipt of Carers Allowance. His weekly income is retirement pension of £84.25, works pension of £43.75, savings credit benefit of £11.90 and capital income of £1 as he has £6,250 in the bank. His rent and Council Tax comes to £34.87 per week.

He attends Day Care twice a week and receives five hours of Domestic Care a week - care worth £47.16 per week.

When initially assessed, Mr Brown has no available income to contribute to the cost of his care.

The Benefits Officer subsequently helped Mr Brown apply for Attendance Allowance, Higher Rate, which increased his income by £62.25 per week.

When re-assessed, Mr Brown's available income is £34.28 a week, which he is liable to contribute to the cost of his care. However, as he is now receiving Attendance Allowance, Mr Brown is £27.97 **better off** every week.

Example 2

Mrs Jones is a 63 year old widow. Her weekly income consists of a retirement pension of £84.25 and a works pension of £34. She receives a home care service of 3 hours a week. She pays £9 rent and £3.37 Council Tax.

As Mrs Jones net income of £105.88 is less than the £133 threshold for individuals, she is **not charged** for the services she receives.

Do you want to know more?

If you have questions on anything covered in this leaflet, or require any further information, then you can contact the Admin Section at your nearest Social Work Office:

Aberdeenshire North (Banff)	01261 812001
Aberdeenshire Central (Inverurie)	01467 620981
Aberdeenshire South (Stonehaven)	01569 763800

Contribution towards the cost of your Care / Housing Support

CHARGING FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL
CARE SERVICES - INFORMATION FOR
SERVICE USERS AND THEIR CARERS

(Applicable from 26.06.2006)

What is this leaflet about?

If you receive help at home from Aberdeenshire Council Social Work you **may** be required to contribute towards the cost of the services you receive. This leaflet explains how this might affect you.

Will all services be charged for?

Chargeable Non-Residential Services (where applicable):

Domestic Care (over 65's)	£8.12 per hour
Day Care Attendance	£3.28 per day
Community Alarm	£1.00 per week
Supported Living	£8.12 per hour
Personal Care (over 65's)	Free
Sleep-ins (over 65's)	Free
Domiciliary Care	Free
Transport	Free
Carers Support	Free
Meals on Wheels / Day Care Meals	£2.70 per meal
Home Care (under 65's)	£8.12 per hour
Sleep-in (under 65's)	£30.03 per night
Attendance at LD Day Centres	Free

Chargeable Housing Support Services:

Local Authority Sheltered Housing	£14.68 per week
Other Landlords	£ - Variable

How will charges be calculated?

The services you receive will **always** be based on your needs and **never** on your ability to pay. A Charge will only be made if your assessable income is over the income threshold set by the Council, therefore many service users will pay nothing, or will only contribute towards part of the cost.

- An individual whose assessed weekly income is £133 or less will pay nothing.
- A couple whose assessed weekly income is £203 or less will pay nothing

- An extra allowance of £54 per week will be added for every dependent child in the family.

The income thresholds and children's allowances have been increased. The figures above apply from 26 June 2006.

How is income assessed?

- When working out your weekly income, any eligible housing costs (rent/mortgage/Council Tax/Water Charge) will be deducted from your total income, as will certain benefits and pensions.
- Your income may include any financial resources you may have reasonable access to, for example your spouse's income.
- However, if the amount of capital you have (bank and building society account, shares etc) exceeds £6000, then £1 will be added to your income for every £500, or part of £500, you have over the £6000 threshold.
- If your capital exceeds £16,000 then you will be charged for the full subsidised cost of the services you receive.
- The value of your home will **not** be included when calculating your capital, although second properties may be included.

What about Social Security Benefits?

All benefits will be included in your income for assessment purposes, with the exception of Disability Living Allowance (Mobility Component), War Widows Pension (MOD Component) and War Disablement Pension. However, the Council will offer you a benefits entitlement check to ensure that you are receiving all the benefits to which you are entitled.

What happens after the financial assessment?

Following the financial assessment you will be advised in writing of:

- the amount that you will have to contribute towards the cost of the services
- the frequency of bills
- the available methods of payment.