



MONEY MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION

*Proposed changes to the for Money Management
(Appointeeship) charging regime*

Easy Read Version

MONEY MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION



Bedford Borough Council are changing the way they charge people for their money management service.

This easy read will tell you:

- What the service is and who can use it
- How people pay for the service now
- Why the council wants to change it
- How people will pay after the change
- What will happen next



WHAT IS THE MONEY MANAGEMENT SERVICE?



Like most councils, Bedford Borough Council provides a service to support people who are not able to manage their own money and have no one else to support them.

This is the money management service.



The money management service is a **discretionary service**.

A **discretionary service** means the law does **not** tell the council they must provide this service.

It is a service that the council thinks is a good idea and **chooses** to provide.

WHY DOES THE COUNCIL PROVIDE THIS SERVICE?

The council chooses to provide this service for those who don't have capacity to manage their own finances



We're here for you when no one else can manage your finances

It is a last resort service for those lacking capacity and who have no family or carers to help them

WHO CAN USE THE SERVICE?

The service can support people:



Who have care or support that is funded by the council

and



Who don't have the capacity to manage their own finances and no one else to help them

WHO DOES THE SERVICE SUPPORT?



The service now supports over 200 people.

This includes people with

- learning disabilities
- mental health
- physical disabilities
- and**
- older people



It helps people to live independently whether that is in the community, or while they are in residential care.



HOW DOES THE COUNCIL DO THIS?



The money management team sets up a new bank account for the person. They will:

look out for money coming in and out of the person's account



make sure that important bills are always paid on time



make sure that the person gets the right benefits



arrange for **personal allowances**, using a pre paid card.
This means any money the person might want or need has easy access to for spending.

WHY IS THE COUNCIL CHANGING HOW PEOPLE PAY FOR IT?



More people are using the money management service now.



People are living longer now than they used to. This means that even more people might need the service in the future.

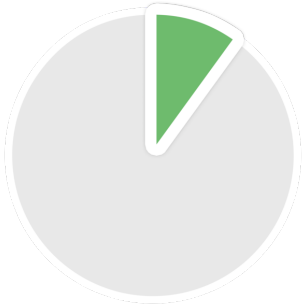


At the same time, the service is costing the council more to run.

HOW DO PEOPLE PAY FOR THE SERVICE NOW?



There is a fee for the service if people have more than £1,000 in savings.



Those people pay a **percentage** of their savings.

This means a portion of their total amount of savings.

HOW DO PEOPLE PAY FOR THE SERVICE NOW?

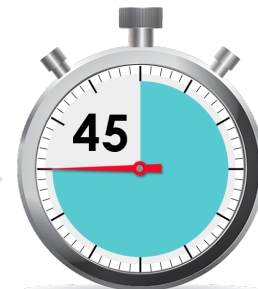
The percentage, or portion, is the same for everyone whether they:



live in residential care
or
live in the community



use a small amount of service time
or
use a lot of service time



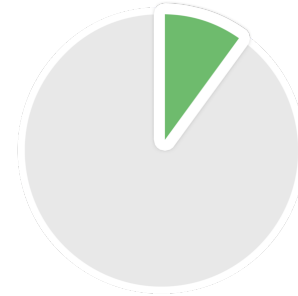
Charging the same portion means people with lots of savings pay more than people with a small amount of savings.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



For example,
Imagine you and a friend wanted to buy an apple each...

The shop will charge you 10 percent
of the money you have in your pocket.



Your friend has £1 in their pocket.
10 percent of £1 is 10p. **Their apple will cost 10p.**



You have £5 in your pocket.
10 percent of £5 is 50p. **The apple will cost you 50p**



The percentage is the same but because £5 is a bigger total
amount, the same thing would you cost more.

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS WITH THIS?



The council have found that people who live in the community usually need more service time than people living in residential care.

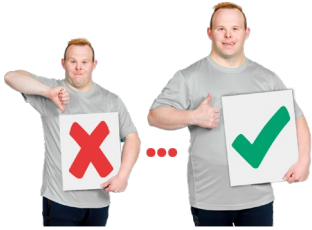


This means it costs more for the service to support people who live in the community.



It is a confusing way to charge people.
It takes time for the council to work out what the fee should be.

WHY WILL A CHANGE BE BETTER?



The council would like a new way to work out fees for the service which will:

Be easier to **understand** for everyone.

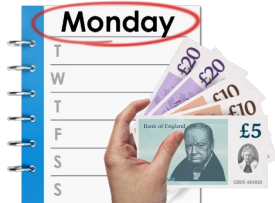


Mean that the fees are **fairer**, because they are worked out on how much service time people are likely to need.



Make sure that the council can keep the service **open**, even when more people are using it and it costs more.

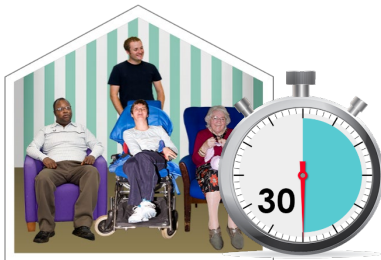
HOW WILL PEOPLE PAY FOR THE SERVICE IN THE FUTURE?



A **weekly fee** will be charged
A fee is a payment for services



For people living in the community the fee will be higher
because they need more support.
Their fee is based on 45 minutes of support time.



Because people living in residential settings don't need so much support, they will be charged a **smaller fee**.
Their fee is based on 30 minutes of support time.

HOW WILL PEOPLE PAY FOR THE SERVICE IN THE FUTURE?



A fee will also be charged when the money management team:



sets up the service when someone uses it for the first time



closes the service for them if they don't need it anymore

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

The council will:



tell the partnership boards and groups that need to know about the change



listen to people's feedback about the new idea for fees



think about the feedback and use it to improve things if needed



get agreement for the change from the rest of the council



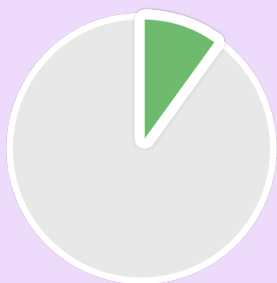
make sure everyone knows about the change and when it will happen



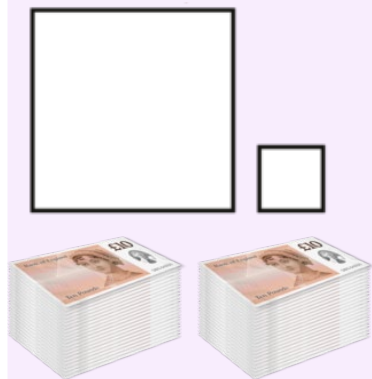
make the change happen

A SUMMARY OF THE CHANGES

Now



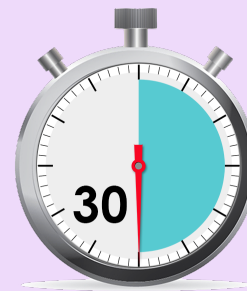
Fees are charged as a percentage of savings (*only when they are over £1000*)



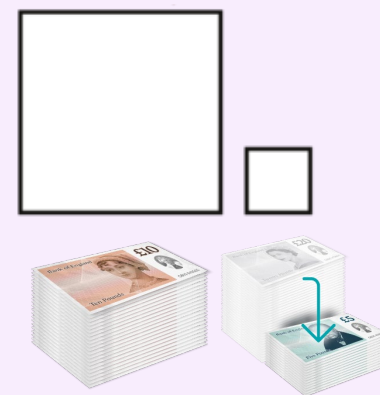
Fees do not match up to how much work the service needs to do

The new idea

Fees are based on how much service time people need (*only when savings are over £1000*)



Two different fees that match up better to how much work is needed for different living arrangements



A SUMMARY OF THE CHANGES

Now



People may not want to save their money because their fees would be higher



The service might have to stop in the future because the fees don't cover how much it costs to run

The new idea

Fees stay the same regardless of their savings



The service can stay open because the fees will cover how much it costs to run

