

Social Services – In Year action plan 2024/2025

Care and support needs are unique to every individual as are their financial circumstances. This means that every person in receipt of care and support will have been appropriately assessed and where necessary also completed a financial assessment.

The action plan below details the work being undertaken by the Social Services Portfolio to review the deliver of care and support, but due to the unique circumstances surround an individual, a specified saving cannot always be provided.

No	Maximise income				
	Description	Client Groups	Savings (£m)		Impact Assessment
1	Complete a financial review of individuals who are currently assessed as 'Nil Payers' to establish if their finances have changed and they can now make a financial contribution to their care.	All adults except mental health	Any contributions will be aligned to individual financial assessment.	0.010	Green
2	Introduce charging for Adult Mental Health Practitioner Assessment for other local authorities at a rate of £400 per assessment.	Mental Health	Very small numbers and saving will be modest <£0.001m per annum.		Green
3	Review of Adult Continuing Health Care (CHC) and Childrens' Continuing Care (CC) processes across all services to seek to maximise health funding in line with eligibility criteria.	All Groups	Work in this areas has been ongoing for a number of years and the CHC / CC process is complex and both the approval process and dispute process are managed by health colleagues. A conservative	0.010	Green

			in-year cost saving has been estimated.		
4	Review the current Social Services Charging Policy	All Groups	The Social Services Charging Policy has been reviewed in line with current legislation and practice in other local authority areas. Whilst there are some changes identified, these are anticipated to create savings of around £0.005m per annum.	0.005	Amber

No	Support people to access their own resources				
	Description	Client Groups	Savings (£m)		Impact Assessment
5	Review our service approach to adult services including a Framework of Support for Adults. The Framework allows for the flexibility and consistency of service delivery required under the Act. The Framework is designed to empower adults to meet their personal outcomes using their strengths, capabilities, family and community support networks and where eligible receive support from the local authority.	All	Implement the Framework of Support principals across services. There will be cost avoidance because of the adoption of the Framework.		Amber

6	Framework of Support to be applied all new referrals.	All	As above.		Amber
7	The Framework of Support will be applied to all review and reassessment processes.	All	Following review there may be appropriate reductions in existing service provision.	0.020	Red
8	Raise awareness of small aids available for private purchase. We are working with NEWCIS (North East Wales Carers Information Service) to provide a demonstration space at their new Carers Centre to help inform people about small aids and equipment available for private purchase to support independent living.	Disabled adults and children Older People	Cost avoidance through demand management		Amber
9	Review delivery model for low value equipment	Disabled adults and children Older People	Cost avoidance through demand management		Amber
10	Invite Education colleagues to attend the daily Safeguarding Hub	Children & Families	Cost avoidance through demand management		Green
11	Review the Exit From Care Strategy to step children down from statutory services where safe and appropriate	Children & Families	Cost avoidance through demand management		Green
12	Review back office and authorisation processes for expenditure to support people through pre-paid cards	Children & Families	Cost avoidance through demand management		Green
No	Right size care packages				

	Description	Client Groups	Savings (£m)		Impact Assessment
13	Work with Domiciliary Care Providers to identify where care and support can be appropriately decreased	Adults	Reductions based on assessed need.	0.050	Green
14	Review and where appropriate reduce Double Handed Domiciliary Care Packages.	Adults	Reductions based on assessed need.	0.025	Amber
15	Rightsizing review of Learning Disability Supported Living care packages	Learning Disability	Reductions based on assessed need.	0.050	Amber
16	Review and reduce respite offer where appropriate aligned to need. There is no prescribed level of respite that a local authority must provide. A review has taken place of individual eligibility for respite within the context of available resources and need. We have commenced communicating the outcome to people and their carers/family to realign provision. Risk is identified as red as people may challenge our assessment and we will need to objectively consider any issues raised before finalising our provision.	Learning Disability	Reductions based on assessed need.	0.025	Red
17	Increase use of Telecare Equipment and Technology	All Groups	Cost avoidance		Green
18	Review back-office processes around Direct Payments	All Groups	Cost avoidance		Green

19	Reduce direct payment funding from 6-week to 4-week credits	All Groups	One off saving of moving from a 6-week to a 4-week permissible allowance. This is estimated at £2.200m and based upon reducing the current amount held on balance of £6.5m by approximately one third. A proportion of this amount will already be incorporated within the outturn as part of the standard working practice for Direct Payments.	2.200	Green
20	Evaluate the D2RA (Discharge 2 Recover and Assess) Model operating at Marleyfield House Care Home and identify potential savings	Older People	Cost avoidance		Amber
No		Efficient commissioning			
	Description	Client Groups	Savings		Impact Assessment
21	Review process for using Block Booked Beds (BBB)	Adults	Cost avoidance		Amber
22	Ensure all Dom Care Package Retainers cease after 2 weeks	Adults	Cost avoidance		Amber

23	Broker representation at Top-Up Panel to challenge and ensure consistency of approach	Older people	Cost avoidance		Green
24	Review the pathways from hospital to home	Adults	Cost avoidance		Amber
25	Review the Hospital Discharge Process for independent providers	Adults	Cost avoidance		Green
26	Review of OP and Disability Panel Process	Older people and disabled adults	Cost avoidance		Amber
27	Support use of CareCubed across all services for High Cost/Low Volume placements initially, as well as other high-cost placements	All groups	Software costs and Social Services' commitment of £41,750 per annum as a Corporate Efficiency to the Digital Transformation workstream, means that any savings identified have been accounted for. However, there will be cost avoidance benefits.		Red
28	Refine governance processes for accessing legal advice	Children and families	Cost avoidance		Green
29	Review all Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) post 18 individuals and reduce support in line with need	UASC	Cost saving of £100 pw for 22 UASC's	0.044	Green

30	Return all unused or no longer required IT equipment and Mobile Phones to reduce costs.	None	Cost avoidance		Green
No	Exit strategy for agency staff				
	Description	Client Groups	Savings		Impact Assessment
31	Cease managed agency Teams and finalise move for all agency staff to All Wales Pledge rates	Children and families	Cost avoidance		Green
	Total Savings			2.439	