





West Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership Equality Impact Assessment Tool 2021/22

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Section 1: Policy/Function/De A PFD is understood in the broad ser Partnership is responsible for.	cision (PFD) Details nse including the full range of functions, activities and decisions the Health and Social Care		
Name of PFD:	WDC Charging Policy for HSCP services		
Lead Team & other	Julie Slavin – project sponsor		
departments/sections/ partners involved:	Laura Evans - project manager		
	Care at Home, COPT, Learning Disabilities, Mental Health, Children Care,		
	Addictions, SDS ideas, Carers WD, Residential and Adult day services.		
Responsible Officer	Julie Slavin – project sponsor		
Impact Assessment Team	Care at Home, Adult community, Learning Disabilities, Mental Health, Children Care, Addictions, SDS ideas, Carers WD.		
Is this a new or existing	New		
Start date: (the assessment should be	e started prior to PFD development/drafting or at the early stages of review): 28/05/2020		
End date (this should allow for the as	sessment to inform decision-making): Target date is end of July		
What are the main aims of the <b>PFD</b> ?	To approve the charging policy so it is clear for services what can and cannot be		
	charged for.		
Who are the main target groups/	Care at Home, COPT, Learning Disabilities, Mental Health, Children Care,		

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Who will be affected by the <b>PFD</b> ?	Addictions, SDS ideas, Carers WD, Residential and Adult day services.
evidence)	uality duties and equality groups, also record if there is no relevance giving reasons/
Yes: Relevant as this policy is abo	ut public service deliver
	If yes, complete all sections, 2-9
	If no, complete only sections 8-9
	If don't know, complete sections 2& 3 to help assess relevance
Section 2: Evidence	
	ed to assess the impact of this PFD, including the sources listed below. Please also identify
any gaps in evidence and what will b	e done to address this.
Available evidence:	
Consultation/ Involvement with	The following teams will be approached to ensure equality is in place within the
community, including individuals or	charging policy: Carers WD
groups or staff as relevant	
	SDS group
	Care at Home, COPT, Learning Disabilities, Mental Health, Children Care, Addictions, and Residential and Adult day services.
Research and relevant information	COSLA guidance has been referred to when writing the charging policy
Officer knowledge	Chief financial officer for HSCP is involved
Equality Monitoring information –	Service managers were involved in this equality assessment
including service and employee	Senior social workers from each service were also involved in the review of
monitoring	the charging policy.
Feedback from service users, partne	
or other organisation as relevant	charging policy:
	Carers WD

	SDS group(Includes carers, service users, board and managers)		
Other	N/A		
Are there any gaps in evi	dence? Please indicate how these will be addressed		
Gaps identified	<ul> <li>Financial assessments are inconsistent</li> <li>Benefits maximisation process is inconsistent</li> <li>Respite to be made clear that there will be no charge for Carers</li> <li>Lack of Consultation of Day Centre charge</li> <li>Assessments does not capture if a person has had a gender reassignment</li> <li>SDS is not fully embedded in services assessments</li> <li>Service users who pay titheing towards a religion/belief, this expense should be considered within a financial assessment</li> <li>ILF service users should be exempt, but is then unfair on those who don't receive it</li> <li>It is not clear within the charging policy that those diagnosed with a terminal illness will not get charged for using the day centre.</li> <li>Those who attend day centre for less than a day , should they receive a lesser charge.</li> <li>Disability related expenditure to be added as an exclusion as per COSLA guidance</li> <li>Age thresholds within charging policy for income</li> <li>Partner refusing to divulge income, what happens in this scenario?</li> <li>Consider whether community alarms should not be charged for as they are part of disability related expenditure</li> <li>Ensure all of the equality characteristics are mandatory questions in the single assessments.</li> </ul>		

Measure to address these	Revie	Review action plan and negative impacts which wont be addressed.		
Section 3: Involvement and Consultation Include involvement and consultation relevant to this PFD, including what has already been done and what is required to be done, how this will be taken and results of the consultation. Please outline details of any involvement or consultation, including dates carried out, protected characteristics. Also, include involvement or consultation to be carried out as part of the developing and implementing the policy.				
Details of consultations	Dates	Findings	Characteristics	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)	29/06/20	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice. Percentage of clients who are nil charge compared to full charge or contributing shown as a breakdown by race. This data may be skewed due to the number of clients where their race is not known or recorded.	Race	
Reviewed by senior social worker David Buchan for the Addictions service	03/07/2020	No impact		
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No Impact		
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	15/06/2020	No Impact		

Laura Evans	16/07/2020	People from Black minority ethnic groups are more	
	10/07/2020	likely to be income deprived than white groups.	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)	29/06/20	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire Council, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice.	Sex
Reviewed by senior social worker David Buchan for the Addictions service	03/07/2020	No impact	
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No impact	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	15/06/2020	No Impact	
Laura Evans	16/07/2020	Women are more likely to be income deprived than men (e.g. 80% plus of single parents are women)	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)	29/06/2020	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice. There currently is not any data available to determine this	Gender Reassignment
Reviewed by senior social	03/07/2020	No impact	

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worker David Buchan for the Addictions service			
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No impact	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	15/06/2020	No Impact	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)	29/06/20	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice	Disability
Reviewed by senior social worker David Buchan for the Addictions service	03/07/2020	No impact	
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No Impact	
Learning Disability (Lorraine David Service Manager and Robert MacFarlane(Operations Manager)	25/06/2020	Lack of formal or informal consultation with stakeholders before the implementation of charges. Due to a lack of Equality Impact Assessment being completed before the implementation of charges, this potentially created avoidable organisational risk in terms of the legal expectations of this work-taking	

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place. A completed Charging Policy was unavailable for consultation, along with the notified service concerns before the implementation of charges.	
The policy could be clearer when determining what service users are specifically being charged for, e.g. what is included in the day charge. Therefore, there could be room for misunderstanding and resulting inequitably in application of charge.	
A significant challenge the policy has is ensuring a fair charge for all client groups, whilst also recognising and respecting the unique differences that may exist across these same client groups.	
The impact on people with disabilities relating to the implementation of charges for the services provided in Learning Disability Day Services.	
Implementing a day charge which includes the provision of a lunch does not acknowledge the key principles of the national Learning Disability Strategy 'Keys to Life'; Self Directed Support; and European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). Under section 6 of the Human Rights Act (1998), which highlights that, people (including those with learning disabilities) have the right to 'Choice and Control'.	
This includes the right to determine the food they wish to eat and where they eat it. The Policy also overlooks individual's complex health conditions and related anxieties, which can involve peg feeding (nil by mouth) or specialist dietary requirements provided from home.	

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<ul> <li>Learning Disabilities, e.g. 'choice, control, and active citizenship', could view the introduction of a broader charge.</li> <li>The introduction of the charge could result in the lowering of the overall cost of the package of support and therefore the service contribution to the care costs. This could easily then have a knock on effect on whether this service contribution is equal to the ILF contribution? If it is lower, then either the ILF contribution needs to be reduced or the service contribution needs to be increased. If people who are utilising ILF are exempt from charges then this could be viewed by the Care Inspectorate as inequitable and ultimately discriminatory to those that are not.</li> </ul>	
because many individuals attend Dumbarton Centre to partially provide respite to carers and this is reflected in	
<ul> <li>The care plan – therefore charges may need to be waived (50%) in these circumstances due to the Carers Act (2016). However, this would not be applicable if there were separate charges for lunches and transport.</li> <li>Not everyone attends for a full day. Some individuals may only attend for a couple of hours therefore a daily charge would be unfair.</li> <li>A day charge hides the elements exempt from</li> </ul>	
charge - personal care, services directly attributable to carers (carers respite), people who are terminally	

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		ill, adult support and protection.	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	15/06/2020	No impact	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager) Reviewed by senior social	29/06/2020 03/07/2020	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice. No impact	Age
worker David Buchan for the Addictions service			
Children Services (Annie Ritchie and Paul Kyle)	24/06/2020	No impact as policy is not applicable to children under the age of 19 years. Impact will require to be considered by adult services at point of transition from child to adult services where this is applicable.	
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No impact	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline	15/06/2020		

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Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)		No Impact	
Laura Evans	16/07/2020	Emerging evidence is that under 30's have taken a more severe hit in terms of incomes during the last 4 months	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)	29/06/2020	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice. This data may be skewed due to the number of clients where their religion/belief is not known or recorded There is some deferential across the breakdown of faith and religion in relation to nil charging. However, as the lowest Nil charge is where religion is not stated it is difficult to determine any actual or potential negative outcomes accurately.	Religion/ Belief
Reviewed by senior social worker David Buchan for the Addictions service	06/07/2020	No impact	
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No impact	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	15/06/2020	No Impact	

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Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home	29/06/2020	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West	Sexual Orientation
), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)		Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice.	
Reviewed by senior social worker David Buchan for the Addictions service	06/07/2020	No impact	
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No impact	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	15/06/2020	No Impact	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)	29/06/2020	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice.	Civil Partnership/ Marriage
Reviewed by senior social worker David Buchan for the Addictions service	06/07/2020	No impact	

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Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No Impact	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	15/06/2020	No Impact	
Meeting between Lynne McKnight (IOM - Care at Home ), Richard Heard (Service Manager) and Jane Gray (Service Manager)	29/06/2020	This policy and procedure adheres to legislative requirements, protecting the reputation of West Dunbartonshire HSCP, and responding to COSLA Protocols and best practice.	Pregnancy/ Maternity
Reviewed by senior social worker David Buchan for the Addictions service	06/07/2020	No impact	
Berny Smith, IOM Residential and Day Services and Hazel Kelly IOM, COPT	23/06/2020	No Impact	
Meeting between Hazel Kelly (Interim IOM COPT), Caroline Thomson (SSW COPT) and Sean Taylor (SSW COPT)	No Impact		
SDS Ideas	30/06/2020	Financial assessments are not always completed Maximisation of benefits is inconsistent	Other

Carers WD		30/06/2020	•	clarity that a carer will not get a carer is getting respite	
Section 4: Ana	alysis of pos	itive and N	egative Impacts		
Protected Characteristic	Positive Imp	bact		Negative Impact	No impact
Race	(Addictions s	ervice) n of benefits (F	n rights principles Residential and Adult		Care at Home service
Sex	Yes, consiste (Addictions s	ent with huma ervice) n of benefits (F	n rights principles Residential and Adult		Care at Home service
Gender Re-assignment		n of benefits (F	Residential and Adult		Care at Home service
Disability	Yes, consiste (Addictions s	ent with huma ervice) n of benefits (F	t Home service) n rights principles Residential and Adult	Availability of services and funding varies dependant on disability(Care at home) Availability of services and funding varies dependant on disability. No equity of spend(COPT) Expenses for those who have multiple profound complex needs, needs to be considered	

		Disability related expenditure (SDS Ideas) Community alarms should not be charged for those with a disability (SDS ideas)	
		Lack of services, there is a requirement for more resources and choices to be offered to individuals, due to self-directed support and funding/benefits can vary dependant on disability. Charging someone for a full service they may not be able to fully access (Residential and Adult day services)	
		Those who don't receive a ILF will get charged.	
Age	Maximises income(COPT) Maximises income(Care at Home) Yes, consistent with human rights principles (Addictions service) Maximisation of benefits. Will offer more	Availability of services and funding varies dependant on age (Care at home) Minimum income thresholds is based on age (SDS ideas)	No impact as policy is not applicable to children under the age of 19 years. Impact will require to be
	opportunities, choices and resources for individuals of all ages (Residential and Adult Day Services)	Currently services and resources are limited to some	considered by adult services at point of

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		community groups and funding	transition from child to
		varies dependant on age	adult services where
		(Residential and Adult Day	this is applicable.
		Services)	(Children Services)
		Availability of services and	
		funding varies dependant on	
		age. No equity of spend(COPT)	
Religion/ Belief	Yes, consistent with human rights principles (Addictions service) Maximisation of benefits (Residential and Adult Day Services)	There is some differential across the breakdown of faith and religion in relation to nil charging. However, as the lowest Nil charge is where religion is not stated it is difficult to determine any actual or potential negative outcomes accurately(Care at Home	
		Service)	
		Some individuals may have financial commitments arrangements made with their church, which may need to be considered within the assessment(Residential and Adult Day Services)	
		Issue of Titheing may need to be considered as an	

		outgoing(COPT)	
Sexual Orientation	Maximisation of benefits (Residential and Adult Day Services)		Care at Home service Addictions Service COPT
Civil Partnership/ Marriage	Maximisation of benefits (Residential and Adult Day Services)	Partner may not provide access to income however their income is assessed and charge applied against this (Care at Home) Depending on the relationship. This may be of a disadvantage to the person requiring the service as the partner may refuse to divulge their income, resulting in no/limited service being offered or maximum charges being applied(Residential and Adult Day Services)	Addictions Service
		Partner may not provide access to income however, their income is assessed and charge applied against this (COPT)	
Socio Economic Status	Maximisation of benefits (Residential and Adult Day Services)	If income is high individual could be getting maximum charge for practical tasks. Those at lower end of threshold may not be charged equally. (Care at Home)	Addictions Service
		If income is high individual could be getting maximum charge for practical tasks. Those at lower end of threshold may not be	

	charged equally i.e. comparison of example 1 +3 on page 20 of charging policy (COPT)
Section 5: Addressing in	npacts
•	pply (use can choose more than one) and give a brief explanation – to be expanded in Section 6:
1. No major change	
2. Continue the PFD	The charging policy will continue, as the equality impact assessment did not bring out
	any blockers to remove charging.
3. Adjust the PFD	
3. Adjust the PFD	any blockers to remove charging.
<ol> <li>Adjust the PFD</li> <li>Stop and remove the</li> </ol>	any blockers to remove charging.There are a few amendments, which will be made, and these will be documented in the
-	any blockers to remove charging.There are a few amendments, which will be made, and these will be documented in the
4. Stop and remove the	any blockers to remove charging.There are a few amendments, which will be made, and these will be documented in the
4. Stop and remove the PFD	any blockers to remove charging.There are a few amendments, which will be made, and these will be documented in the
4. Stop and remove the PFD Give reasons:	any blockers to remove charging.There are a few amendments, which will be made, and these will be documented in the

Section 6: Action Plan Please describe any action which will be taken following the assessment in order to;

- reduce or remove any negative impacts,
- promote any positive impacts, or
- gather further information or evidence or further consultation required

Action	Respon sible	Intended outcome	Date for completion	Status	Protected Characteristic
	person				
	(s)				

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		Mandatory field			Race
					Gender
Assessments does not capture if a person has had a gender reassignment	Laura Evans	Include in single assessment whether a person has had a gender reassignment, wishes to have one, or would like to be referred to as a different pronoun.	31/07/2020	This would be added in the single assessment.	Gender Reassignment
Lack of Consultation of Day Centre charge	Laura Evans	Ensure service users, employees, and carers decide whether they day centre charge should be split out or not.	31/07/2020	It was decided to split out the charge so it includes charge, transport and meals. This was favoured by Argyll and Lomond Advocacy groups and WD carers.	Disability
Disability related expenditure to be added as an exclusion as per COSLA guidance	Laura Evans	Ensure service users do not need to pay a higher charge if because disability related expenditure was not included.	17/07/2020	Completed	Disability
Consider whether	Julie Slavin	Consider whether community	31/07/2020	Closed - This was	Disability

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community		alarms should not		reviewed with the chief	
alarms should not be charged		be charged for as they are part of		financial officer, and it	
for as they are		disability related		was determined	
part of disability		expenditure		community alarms is a	
related				service and not a	
expenditure				expenditure, therefore the	
				fixed charge for	
				community alarms will	
				continue but will be added	
				as an outgoing in the	
				financial assessment.	
Investigate why there are age thresholds within charging policy for income	Julie Slavin	Reach a decision if there should be age thresholds for income	31/07/2020	Closed - This is based upon the COSLA guidance and DWP rates of benefit and the older people benefit	Age
Consider if service users who pay money towards a religion/belief, whether this expense should be considered	Julie Slavin	Reach a decision if money paid towards a religion/belief should be added as an expense.	31/07/2020	It was decided this would not be an expense.	Religion/ Belief

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within a financial assessment					
					Sexual Orientation
					Pregnancy/ Maternity
Initiate a separate project to review the financial assessments process across HSCP	Laura Evans	Ensure financial assessments across HSCP are consistent and fair to service users.	2020/2021	Completed	Other e.g. cross cutting
Ensure all of the equality characteristics are mandatory questions in the single assessments	Laura Evans	Ensure all characteristics are covered in the assessment by making them mandatory questions so data can be taken to ensure the service is provided fairly.	31/07/2020	This is covered in the new my life assessment.	Other e.g. cross cutting
Benefits maximisation is inconsistent	Jacquie Carson	This will be reviewed as part of the SDS single assessment process	2020/2021	Completed	Other e.g. cross cutting
Update definition of Respite and short breaks	Laura Evans	Ensure that it is clear for Carers that if they are having respite or	31/07/2020	Completed	Other e.g. cross cutting

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within the charging policy so it is clear that a Carer wont get charged if they are having respite or having a short break.		on a shortbreaks a Carer wont get charged.			
Initiate a project which embeds SDS into HSCP services.	Jacquie Carson	Ensure service users are giving the choice, control and active citizenship for the services they receive.	2020/2021	Completed	Other e.g. cross cutting
Ensure it is clear within the charging policy that those who are diagnosed with a terminal illness that they would not get charged for using the day centre or for any service	Laura Evans	There would be no charge given to those who are diagnosed with a terminal illness	31/07/2020	Completed	Other e.g. cross cutting
A review is required to find out if there should be a	Laura Evans	A review is required to find out if there should be a lesser	31/07/2020	The charge will be per session.	Other e.g. cross cutting

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charge for those
who only attend
the day centre for
half a day
Are there any negative impacts, which cannot be reduced or removed?
<ul> <li>Those without an ILF will get charged for services.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Those with a higher income will receive a higher charge against those who have a lower income.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Availability of services and income depends on the nature of the disability</li> </ul>
• If a partner refuses to divulge income and there is a concern there is a domestic abuse case then the social
worker will deal with this scenario at the time. If a partner refuses to divulge details and there isn't a concern of
domestic abuse then the full charge will be applied.
Section 7: Monitoring and review
Please detail the arrangements for review and monitoring of the policy
The agreed actions will be captured as part of the project boards and project plans for the charging policy,
financial assessments and embedding SDS. Actions required to be closed before the charging policy goes to IJB
in September will be completed before this occurs.
D The actions required to be closed before the charging policy is approved will be reviewed and updated weekly.
The remaining actions out width this project will be reviewed in the other project boards.
No

	Section 8: Signatures				
٦	The following signatures are required:				
Lead/ Responsible		Signature: Julie Slavin		Date: 18/11/2021	
Officer:					
EQIA/EIA Trained Officer:		Signature:	Margaret-Jane Cardno	Date: 17/11/2021	
Board Reporting complete relevant paragraph on boa report and provide information as neo	rd e further	Signature:		Date:	