

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Survey to ascertain your views on proposed changes to the Deferred Payments Scheme and arranging support for people who fund their own support**

At present, Nottinghamshire County Council operates a Deferred Payments Scheme (DPS) that allows people entering long term residential care to defer some of the costs of their care against the value of their property by entering into a Deferred Payment Agreement (DPA). The care costs incurred are ultimately recouped either when the DPA is terminated or the person dies and the property is sold. The legal (e.g. land registry) and administration costs of a DPA are currently met by the Council.

The Care Act 2014 introduces a new Universal Deferred Payments Scheme, which will allow anyone with eligible needs who owns property or land, and cannot afford their residential fees, and has assets under £23,250, to apply for a DPA. This will increase the number of DPAs that Nottinghamshire County Council enters into and result in increased costs to the Council.

The Care Act allows local councils to charge the legal and administration costs to individuals entering a new DPA. We would like your views on proposed changes to the current arrangements by completing this short questionnaire.

- 1 The current legal costs of arranging a DPA are £195. To what extent do you agree that the County Council should claim back this cost?

Strongly Agree      Agree      Neither      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reasons?

- 2 The current administrative costs of arranging a DPA are £235. To what extent do you agree that the County Council should claim back this cost?

Strongly Agree      Agree      Neither      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reasons?

- 3 Should the County Council charge a flat rate annual fee of £25 for maintaining the DPA?

Yes      No

If No. Please indicate why not?

- 4 At present there are no interest charges whatsoever on any DPA accruing debt, which makes the scheme very expensive for the County Council. Should the County Council charge interest for the debt, based on the interest rate charged to the Council for borrowing money? This rate changes every January and July and is currently 2.65%.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Neither      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reasons?

- 5 At present when someone moves from their own home into supported living accommodation they cannot have a DPA. Should a DPA be offered to people who move into supported living accommodation?

Yes      No

If No. Please indicate why not?

- 6 Should a DPA be offered to potential clients who have sufficient land, but not property, that would eventually meet the support and care costs?

Yes      No

If No. Please indicate why not?

- 7 At present the DPS allows any third party top-up charges made by a residential home to also accrue against the property. It is proposed to discontinue this policy, to bring it in line with people not on a DPA. This will mean that a third party (for example a friend or relative) will have to pay the charge. To what extent do you agree with this proposal?

Strongly Agree      Agree      Neither      Disagree      Strongly Disagree

If you disagree or strongly disagree, please give your reasons?

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The Care Act expects local councils to have more involvement in arranging support for people who are able to pay the full costs of their own support whilst living in the community (called self-funders), and allows councils to charge an administration fee for this service.

- 8 Should the County Council charge a flat rate fee (currently calculated at £100) for the initial brokerage of support.

Yes

No

If No. Please indicate why not?

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- 9 Should the Council charge a flat rate fee (currently calculated at £100) for each occasion when there is a significant change in support which is not as a result of a provider no longer providing a service?

Yes

No

If No. Please indicate why not?

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Nottinghamshire County Council is committed to treating people fairly. So that we can monitor that what we are providing is meeting people's needs and is fair and effective, we would be grateful if you could answer the following questions about yourself. Please be assured the information you give will be used for no other purpose and will remain confidential.

- 10 In relation to DPS are you?

Currently on a DPA

Relative and or friend of a person accessing DPS

Likely to access the DPS

Most Unlikely to access the DPS

- 11 What is your age?

Under 16		46-55	
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16-25		56-65	
26-35		Over 65	
36-45			

12 What is your gender? Male Female

13 Do you have a long term health problem or disability? Yes No  
If yes, please specify the type of impairment(s).

Mobility		Mental Health	
Hearing		Communication	
Vision		Other (please specify)	
Learning			

14 What is your ethnic origin?

White		
Black		
Asian		
Chinese		
Mixed		
Other (please specify)		
I do not wish to specify		

15 Which of these statements best describes you?

I am heterosexual/straight	
I am a lesbian or gay woman	
I am a gay man	
I am bisexual	
I am transsexual	
I do not wish to specify	

16 Please use this section to make any other comments about the DPS or brokerage of support that you may want to bring to the attention of the County Council.

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