

Financial Help for Care and Support

ESCC (East Sussex County Council), ASC (Adult Social Care)



Introduction:

This policy outlines the guidelines and procedures for managing capital depletion and financial assistance for individuals requiring adult social care services in East Sussex County Council.

It is essential to understand that social care services are not free, and individuals must contribute to their care costs based on their financial means



Capital Depletion and Self-Funding:



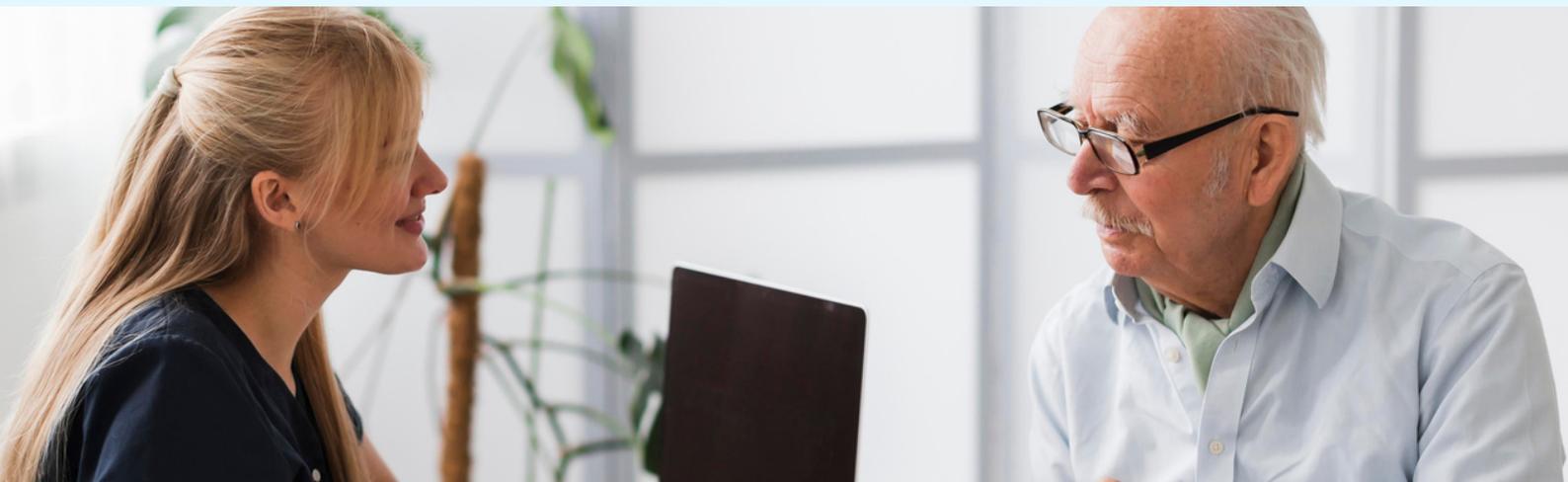
Unlike the National Health Service (NHS), Social Care services are not free. Individuals who require care and support and choose to move to a residential care facility are responsible for covering the costs associated with their care. These costs typically include accommodation, food, heating, laundry, personal care, and assistance with daily living activities and hydration.



Payment for these services is usually required two weeks in advance and two weeks in arrears, but payment at the point of service delivery is not necessary. Invoices for care services must be paid on receipt.



The preferred method for paying weekly fees is through a Standing Order. Additional expenses, such as chiropodist and hairdresser services, can be paid via cheque or bank transfer. It's important to note that there are 52 weeks in a year, resulting in 13 invoices annually and not 12, as per 12 months a year.



Financial help towards care and support from a local authority is not always free: the amount people pay depends on what they can afford.

Financial Assistance Eligibility

Financial assistance from the local authority is available when an individual's capital reaches a certain limit, which is currently set at £23,250. Those who have capital exceeding £23,250 are required to pay for their care privately, arranging the payment directly with the care home.



Capital Depletion Checker

To assist individuals in estimating when their capital might reach £23,250 and when they should contact the East Sussex County Council for financial help, we have developed a simple calculator known as the East Sussex Capital Depletion Checker. This tool is available on the East Sussex County Council website at the following URL:

<https://adultsocialcare.eastsussex.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/precapitaldrop>



Spencer Crouch, ESCC programme manager, said: *“We suggest people contact us around six months before they believe their capital will reach £23,250. This will usually give us time to complete a financial assessment and care and support assessment before they need financial help.”*

Immediate Financial Assistance:

If individuals require financial help towards the cost of their care and support immediately, they can contact Health and Social Care Connect at the following contact information:

Phone: 0345 60 80 191

Email: hsc@eastsussex.gov.uk



Conclusion

East Sussex County Council is committed to providing transparent and accessible information regarding capital depletion and financial assistance for adult social care services. We understand that financial situations may vary, and we are here to assist individuals in navigating their care and support options.

This policy is subject to updates and revisions as necessary to ensure alignment with current guidelines and regulations.