

Capital Limits whilst in a Care Home

Rates apply from April 2016

Higher Capital Limit

If you have savings, capital investments and /or property or land worth over £23,250 you will pay the full cost for your residential or nursing care.

Lower Capital Limit

If you have savings and capital investments over £14,250, for every £250, or part of £250 you have over this amount, £1.00 will be added to your weekly income when we work out how much you will be asked to pay. We call this Tariff Income.

If you have savings and capital investments below £14,250 these are disregarded for the purposes of the financial assessment.

Our booklet "Moving into a Care Home, How much will I have to pay?" explains that you will be asked to pay towards any residential or nursing care service arranged by Herefordshire Council. How much you are charged depends on your financial situation. A financial assessment will be carried out so that we can calculate how much you should pay.

Allowances for Care in Care Home

Personal Expenses Allowance

People in a care home will contribute most of their income, excluding earnings towards the cost of care and support, but the council must leave them with £24.90 of their own income each week so that the person has money to spend on personal items, such as clothes or toiletries (less any Tariff income).

Disposable Income Allowance

If you asked the council to pay your care costs through a Deferred Payment Agreement, you will still need to make a contribution from your income to meet some of the cost of your care but you will be allowed to keep £144 per week towards the upkeep of your property (after taking into account any Tariff income). This is called the Disposable Income Allowance. You can choose to keep less than this per week if you can afford to and we will discuss this with you when you make your application.

Council Charges whilst in a Care Home

Rates apply from April 2016

The amount you will be charged towards your care and support will depend on your financial assessment. If you have been told you will have to pay the full cost for your care, the amount you will be charged will be the amount the council pays the care home.

Charges will vary depending on what the council has agreed to pay, but the usual rates the council will pay are shown below.

Residential Care	£462.03
Nursing Care	£528.41

Care Homes funded through block contract with Council

Prices vary according to the provider, if you have been told you should pay the full cost, you will be provided the amount you need to pay when you are told the outcome of your financial assessment.

Third Party Contributions – Top-Ups

If you choose to stay in care home that costs more than the council would normally pay, a friend or family member can make up the difference in price. This is known as a third party contribution or top-up payment.

The care home, council and third party must all sign an agreement which sets out how much the third party needs to pay, to whom and how often.

If Herefordshire Council is funding your care, the care home should not ask you, your family, friends or carers directly for a top-up contribution: The council has to be involved in any agreement for top-ups.

If this happens please let the Welfare & Financial Assessment Team know immediately by phoning 01432 383444 or e-mail welfarerights@herefordshire.gov.uk