



Living permanently in a care home – savings over the upper threshold

Paying for your care home yourself

- If you do not qualify for support with the cost of your care home place from the council under the financial assessment because you have savings or other capital above the upper threshold you will have to pay the full costs of your care home place directly to the home. Please note that care homes often charge significantly higher care fees for privately funded residents, rather than the rate charged to the council.
- The upper threshold for support from the council for a permanent care home placement is capital/savings over £23,250. Capital includes things like savings, investments, the value of property and land. Some types of capital can be disregarded in calculating your total therefore; it is advisable to request a financial assessment to check if your total capital that is included is above the upper threshold. Please see the Council's Charging Policy for further information <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2022/1/31/lcc-charging-policy-care-act.pdf>
- Even if you can afford to pay the care fees out of your own resources, it is still advisable to have your needs assessed by the council. You may be able to afford the care homes fees at present but if it is likely that you may need financial assistance in the future then it is very important to be sure that the council has agreed that you are eligible to receive the type of care which you are planning. It is also important to remember that your care needs may change over the course of time. please contact the council's Customer Service Centre on 0116 305 0004.

Disability Benefits

- Whilst you are funding your own care home placement you can still be paid Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment or Disability Living Allowance. If you don't have a current award you may be able to make a claim Attendance Allowance or Personal Independence Payment. If you do have a current award which is not at the higher/enhanced rate you might want to seek advice as to whether it could be increased. See Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance factsheet



<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/27/Living-permanently-in-a-care-home-Attendance-Allowance-Personal-Independence-Payment-and-Disability-Living-Allowance.pdf> .

Means-tested Benefits

- Depending upon your income and as your capital decreases you may be entitled to Pension Credit, or Universal Credit. See Pension Credit or Universal Credit and Contributory ESA factsheet.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/27/Living-permanently-in-a-care-home-Pension-Credit.pdf>

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/field/pdf/2020/7/27/Living-permanently-in-a-care-home-Universal-Credit-and-CESA.pdf>

Deferring the cost of your care home if you own a property

- If it is the value of your former home that means you have capital above the upper threshold you might want to apply under the council's Deferred Payment Scheme, see the Deferred Payment Scheme Information Sheet.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-12/deferred-payment-scheme-information-sheet.pdf>

When your savings go down

- When your capital reaches approximately £25,000 please contact the council's Customer Service Centre on 0116 305 0004 to have your eligibility for local authority assisted funding reviewed.

Independent Financial Advice

- You may wish to take financial advice on how best to invest your money. Whilst Leicestershire County Council cannot signpost you to a particular financial advisor you will need to ensure that the financial advisor you choose is an appropriately qualified Independent Financial Advisor for financial advice about funding care. The Society of Later Life Advisors (SOLLA) is a not for profit organisation and will be able to help you find an accredited financial advisor.

<http://www.societyoflaterlifeadvisers.co.uk/>

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Adult Social Care



- You may need to think about who will deal with your finances for you if you lose capacity to do it yourself in the future. For further advice and how to apply online for Lasting Power of Attorney please see the Governments website <https://www.gov.uk/power-of-attorney>