



Disability Related Expenditure

- If you receive a disability benefit such as; Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance – Care Component or Personal Independence Payment – Daily Living Component this will be included as part of your income in your financial assessment to calculate how much you will be required to contribute towards the cost of your care and support service.
- If one of these disability benefits is included in your income the council will deduct from your income enough of the benefit to meet the costs of necessary disability-related expenditure which you incur to meet needs which are not being met by your care and support services. This will reduce the amount you are required to pay towards your care and support.
- In determining disability-related expenditure the council will have regard to the Government's Care and Support Statutory Guidance (see more information below) and any relevant reports/guidance from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman.

What is disability related expenditure?

- Disability-related expenditure can include any **reasonable additional costs** directly related to your age, medical condition or disability, examples will include:
 - Extra heating costs – above any Winter Fuel Allowance
 - Community alarm system
 - Special dietary needs
 - Costs of basic garden maintenance, cleaning, or domestic help
 - Additional costs of bedding, for example, because of incontinence
 - Extra laundry costs
 - Incontinence aids
 - Privately arranged care services
 - Prescription charges
 - Chiropody
 - Transport costs, only costs over and above the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment where one of these is in payment.
 - Special clothing or footwear
 - Purchase, hire, maintenance, and repair of disability-related equipment
 - Court of Protection Deputyship costs
- Please note that this list is not intended to be exhaustive and any reasonable additional costs directly related to your disability could be included.



Self-assessed costs

- The Council operates a 'self-assessment' approach to Disability-Related Expenditure. You can specify on the financial assessment form which of three threshold bands the cost of your disability-related expenditure falls within, currently:
 - No disability-related expenditure
 - under £5.00 per week
 - between £5.00 to £10.00 per week
 - between £10.00 to £15.00 per week
- If you self-assess your costs within these bands, you do not have to provide any receipts.

Costs assessed by the council

- If you have disability-related expenditure over £15.00 per week you can request a full assessment of the costs. The Council will usually require proof of the expenses incurred. Section 7 of the financial assessment form asks you to detail the different costs you have and details the kind of proof/receipts that are requested. The council understands that it is not always possible to detail every cost.
- The outcome of the full assessment will be the amount of disability-related expenditure allowed per week whether this is more than or less than £15.00 per week.

Necessary additional costs

- The lowest cost alternative should usually be utilised e.g. NHS prescription prepayment, Severn Trent's 'WaterSure Scheme'.
- In deciding if a cost can be allowed in your financial assessment the council will consider what is included in your agreed care and support plan, although allowable costs are not restricted to what is stated in the support plan.
- To be included as disability related expense the cost must be higher than normal household living expenses. It is the additional cost above normal household costs that can be considered an additional expense. For example, you may have more laundry than someone without a disability would have, say 5 loads per week per person rather than just 2. The costs of the additional 3 loads could be considered as a disability related expense.
- All allowable costs will be divided by the number of adults living in your household who receive a benefit from the purchased item or service. Exceptional circumstances will be considered on their merits.

This information sheet is for guidance only.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health>



- The council uses average amounts to determine normal and extra costs of some types of expenses. **If, however, your costs are higher for some reason please let us know so that your specific costs can be considered.**

What is not usually disability related expenditure?

- Below are examples of costs that are not usually considered as disability related expenditure:
 - actual medical treatments – these should normally be covered by the NHS
 - board unless there is a legal liability to pay and proof of payment
 - care provided by a family member
 - carers' costs and expenses – these should normally be included in your care and support service.
 - clothing and footwear (in some circumstances special footwear and clothing may be allowed)
 - usual costs of keeping a pet – additional costs will be considered
 - costs related to hobbies and entertainment
 - external window cleaning
 - food, drink and normal household expenses
 - Travel to hospital which is covered by the Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme
 - TV packages/contracts, internet.
 - water charges – Severn Trent offer a discount scheme (WaterSure)

More information

- Further information about the council's care and support charging policy and disability related expenditure is available from:
- **Age UK Leicestershire & Rutland for Care Act Advocacy**
Tel: 0116 204 5110, Email: advocacy@ageukleics.org.uk
Website: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/leics/our-services/information-and-advice/care-act-advocacy-service/>
- **Leicestershire County Council's Charging Policy for Social Care and Support**
<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health/paying-for-care/financial-assessment-for-care-at-home>
- **Care and support statutory guidance**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance#AnnexC>

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