

FC34. DEVELOPMENT OF A CHARGING POLICY FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

With reference to Minute of Meeting of Falkirk Council held on 10 February 2010 (Paragraph FC88 refers), there was submitted Report (circulated) by the Acting Director of Social Work Services (a) summarising the outcomes of a consultation in relation to the introduction of charges for non-residential social care services; (b) establishing the general principles for the charging policy; (c) setting out proposed levels of charging including a capped level of maximum charge and income protection; (d) detailing a plan for the implementation of the charging policy; and (e) seeking approval to implement stage 1 of the plan with charges introduced on 1 November 2010.

Councillor C Martin, seconded by Councillor Blackwood, moved the recommendations as detailed in the Report.

By way of an Amendment, Councillor Alexander seconded by Councillor McNally moved that Council:-

- “(1) agrees to note the guidance produced by Cosla on charging for non residential social care services;
- (2) does not agree to implement stage 1 proposals outlined in sections 5 and 6;
- (3) agrees that the elderly and disabled people are part of the “most vulnerable” sections within our communities and council believes that they should be protected; and
- (4) does not agree to a second stage raid on the pockets of elderly and disabled people but instead recognises the improved starting of point of the 2010/11 financial years in terms of the carry forward position from 2009/10.

In terms of Standing Order 21.4 (i) a vote was taken by roll call, there being 27 Members present, with voting as undernoted:-

For the Motion (16) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Black; Councillors Blackwood, Buchanan, Fry, Goldie, Gow, Lemetti, Mahoney, C Martin, CR Martin, McLuckie, McNeill, Nicol, Nimmo and Patrick.

For the Amendment (11) – Councillors Alexander, Carleschi, Constable, Hughes, Kenna, A MacDonald, McNally, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Thomson.

Accordingly, **AGREED** to:-

- (1) note the guidance produced by COSLA on charging for non-residential social care services;
- (2) the implementation of the stage 1 proposals as outlined in sections 5 & 6 of the Report;

- (3) commence work to undertake financial assessments in relation to all service users under the age of 65 and those service users over the age of 65 as required (in line with decisions made in the Comprehensive Spending Review)
- (4) request that the Acting Director of Social Work Services bring an update report to Housing and Social Care Committee in February 2011 to provide an update on the implementation of stage 1 of the charging policy and, a progress report on the completion of financial assessments and detailed proposals for stage 2.