

## Single Member Cabinet Decision

Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference**E2547****B&NES Fairer Contributions Policy:  
Policy Amendments for Financial Year 2013/14**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	Cllr Paul Crossley, Leader of the Council Cllr Simon Allen, Cabinet Member for Wellbeing
<b>The Issue</b>	The B&NES Fairer Contributions Policy is amended each year to reflect changes in statutory benefit entitlements and minor policy changes which may affect financial assessment.
<b>Decision Date</b>	09/04/2013
<b>The decision</b>	The Cabinet Member & Cabinet Leader agree: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The change relating to the minimum income threshold buffer detailed on page 5 of the Fairer Contributions Policy 2013 (B&amp;NES Fairer Contributions Policy: Policy Amendments for Financial Year 2013/14, Appendix 1 Fairer Contributions Policy April 2013), which brings the policy in line with national DH guidance, and</li><li>2. The changes relating to Disability Related Expenditure set out in Appendix 3, p14-15 of the Fairer Contributions Policy 2013, which provide greater clarity and flexibility for service users, carers and staff and are in line with national Department of Health guidance.</li></ol>
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	The proposed changes are consistent with national Department of Health policy guidance and, also, with proposals set out in the Council's Medium Service & Resource Plan (MTSRP) 2013/14-2015/16.
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	The Fairer Contributions Policy sets out the Council's policy in relation to individual contributions to the cost of their personal social care services. The income from contributions that is collected by the Council, supports the provision of adult social care services. Recommendation 1. (above) relates to the level at which the minimum income "buffer" is set. The recommended 25% buffer complies with DH Guidance. This change to the buffer is an element of the Council's MTSRP 2013/14-2015/16.
<b>Issues considered</b>	Customer Focus; Sustainability; Corporate; Other Legal Considerations
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Cabinet colleagues; Section 151 Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer. Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel (as part of the 2013/14 Financial Planning process)

<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	Consultation has been carried out as part of the Council's financial planning process during 2013/14 and via the Council's Social Care Strategic Planning Group.
<b>Other options considered</b>	None

<b>Signatures of Decision Makers</b>	
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<b>Date of Signature</b>	
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**Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision**