

FREE PERSONAL CARE - Government Legislation from 1 July 2002

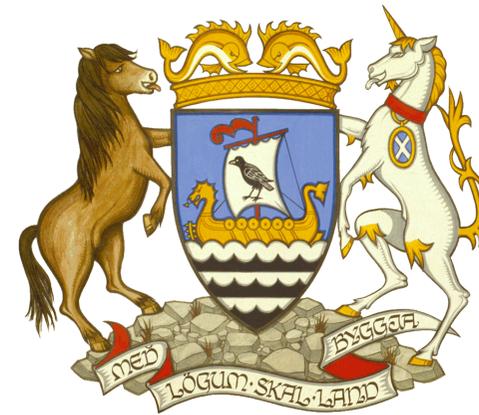
While you are in residential care you will be entitled to £260.30 per week towards the cost of your personal care. This will be paid directly to the care home.

While Free Personal Care of £260.30 is provided to the care home on your behalf, you will no longer be eligible to receive Attendance Allowance, the care component of Adult Disability Payment, Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment. If you have been receiving any of these benefits, you must inform the Department for Work and Pensions of the change in your circumstances.

CC05

April 2026

Community Care



Charging for Permanent Residential Care

**Community Care Services
Shetland Islands Council**

**RESIDENTIAL CARE CHARGES -
APRIL 2026 TO MARCH 2027**

PERMANENT CARE CHARGES:

**HOMES OPERATED BY
SHETLAND ISLANDS COUNCIL**

The Council is obliged to charge the full economic cost of the service provided. The maximum charge in any of the care homes operated by Shetland Islands Council in 2026/2027 will be £2,194 per week.

Edward Thomason & Taing Support Services, Lerwick
Fernlea Care Centre, Whalsay
Isleshavn Care Centre, Mid Yell
Montfield Support Services, Lerwick
Nordalea Care Centre, Unst
North Haven Care Centre, Brae
Overtonlea Care Centre, Levenwick
Wastview Care Centre, Walls

INDEPENDENT CARE HOMES - Price negotiated on an individual basis.

TEMPORARY CARE CHARGES - All residential care settings are £442 per week. The temporary care rate applies for 8 weeks only; thereafter the full cost is applied. Daily rates are 1/7 of the weekly charge.

All charges are subject to financial assessment as described in this leaflet.

FURTHER INFORMATION

This leaflet gives basic information only. The regulations are complex and apply in different ways to different people depending on their personal circumstances.

For more information contact:

Lorne Anderson
Financial Assessment Officer
Community Health & Social Care
Grantfield
Lerwick
Shetland
ZE1 0NT

Tel: 01595 743826

Current residential charges are shown on the next page. These charges are reviewed annually.

A leaflet, 'Financial Assessment for Residential Care' is also available from Community Care Services, telephone: 01595 743826.

This leaflet can be provided in audio form, if required.

This leaflet is updated in April each year.

The Citizens Advice Bureau is also available to offer help and advice. They can be contacted at: Market House, 14 Market Street, Lerwick, ZE1 0JP Tel: 01595 694696

INTRODUCTION

This leaflet provides basic information about charging for permanent residential care.

Charging is not new; local authorities have been expected to charge the full economic cost for their own residential homes since 1948, subject to an assessment of a resident's means.

Since Community Care was introduced in April 1993, Local Authorities also became responsible for residential care costs in voluntary and private homes.

CHARGING

Generally, most of a resident's personal income will go towards the cost of care including retirement pension, any occupational pension (half the occupational pension of a married person) and some Department for Work and Pensions benefits received.

A resident is allowed to retain £37.65 per week (2026/2027 rate) for personal expenses. This can be increased to include a contribution for the maintenance of a spouse.

- The first £22,750 of a resident's capital will be ignored when working out how much he/she should pay towards residential care.

For any capital between £22,750 and £36,750 the local authority will treat the resident as having income which will be calculated at the weekly rate of £1 for every £250 or part £250.

As long as the resident has capital of over £36,750 he/they will be expected to pay the full charge for permanent residential care. If the resident's savings fall to £36,750 they should inform the Financial Assessment Officer immediately, as they will be entitled to a financial assessment and their care charges may be significantly reduced.

WHAT HAPPENS TO A PERSON'S HOUSE WHEN THEY ENTER RESIDENTIAL CARE ON A PERMANENT BASIS?

If the resident owns their home, the local authority will generally take the value into account when working out how much capital he/she has, however for the first 12 weeks following admission, the value will be disregarded from the assessment of capital.

(This rule applied from 09 April 2001).

Its value will also be ignored if one of the following is still living there:

- Husband or wife, civil partner or unmarried partner;
- Relative who is over 60;
- Relative under 16 (if resident has to support them);

- Relative who is incapacitated or disabled;
- Divorced or estranged partner, who is a lone parent with a dependant child.

The term 'relative' is as defined in Scottish Government Guidance issued to Local Authorities.

The local authority may also decide to ignore the value of the house in other circumstances, such as if the person who used to look after the resident still lives there.

WILL THE HOUSE BE SOLD?

Deferred payments were introduced in July 2002 under the Community Care and Health (Scotland) Act 2002. They allow people to avoid selling their homes up-front to meet their care home fees by entering into a legal agreement to have part of their fees paid by their local authority and the balance settled from their estate. (Scottish Executive Circular No 13/2004, dated 13 December 2004).

The Council operates a Deferred Payments Scheme and this will be explained to you during the financial assessment.

OTHER ASSETS

These will be taken into account in line with regulations and according to each person's individual circumstances.