



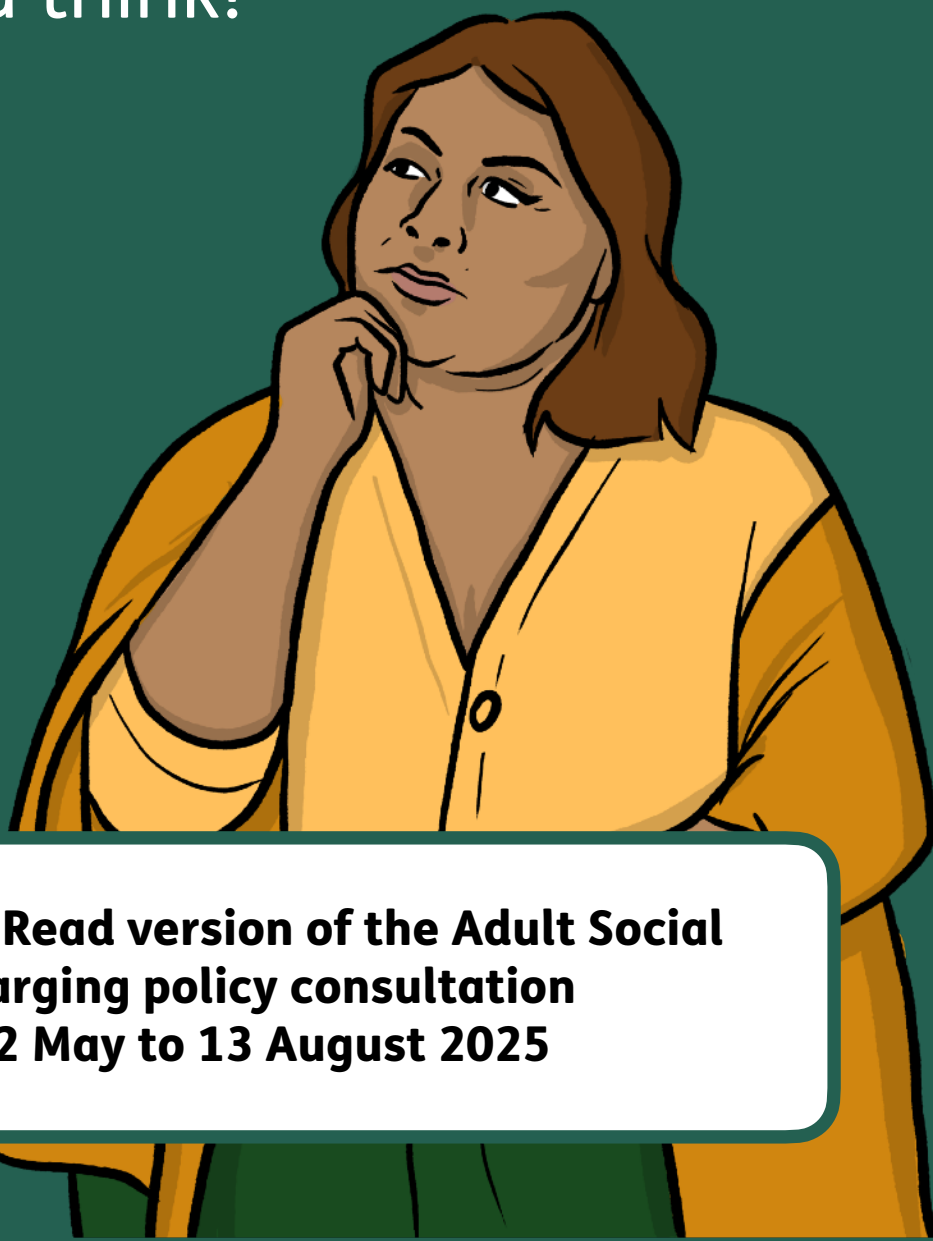
Waltham Forest



**Easy
Read**

Changing how we work out what people pay towards their care

What do you think?

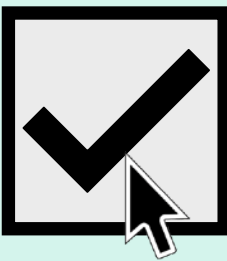


**This is an Easy Read version of the Adult Social
Care Charging policy consultation
From 22 May to 13 August 2025**

How to answer the questions in this booklet



You can answer the questions in this booklet on your computer. First you will need to download it.



When you open the booklet on your computer, you will be able to click on the tick boxes and write in the text boxes.



When you have finished the questions, save the booklet to your computer and email a copy to:
CSPAHub@Walthamforest.gov.uk



You can also post the booklet back to: Business reply licence number: RUER-BYCU-TEJA
Waltham Forest social care survey c/ o Public Perspectives
PO Box 1340
St. Albans
AL1 9NT

You do not need a stamp.

Easy Read



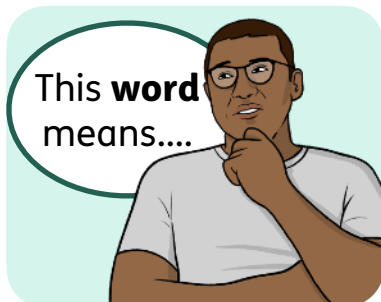
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet

About this booklet	5
Working out what people pay towards their care now	6
What happens now	7
The change we are suggesting.....	9
Why we are suggesting the change	10
What do you think?.....	11
About you.....	21
Thank you.....	34
Find out more	35



You can fill in a quick survey to say what you think about this Easy Read booklet: info.easy-read-online.co.uk/easy-read-feedback-survey

About this booklet



This booklet is from Waltham Forest Borough Council.

We provide services to people across the Borough, including **adult social care services**.



Adult social care services provide extra support to people at home and in the local community.



We want to change the way we work out how much people pay towards the adult social care services they use.



Before we make a decision, we want to know what you think.

Please read this booklet and answer the questions before Wednesday, 13 August 2025.

Working out what people pay towards their care now



The council works out how much people can afford to pay towards their adult social care.



We have to make sure people are left with enough money for the basic things they need to live, like food and bills.



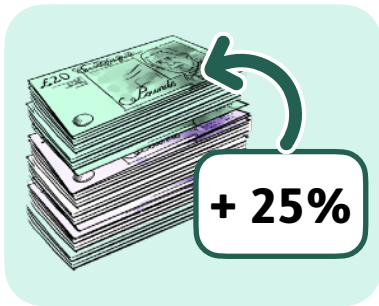
Minimum income guarantee

This amount of money is called the **minimum income guarantee**, or **MIG** for short.



The government sets this amount. It depends on things like your age, disability, and whether you are single or in a couple.

What happens now



At the moment, the council adds an extra 25% on top of the government's minimum income guarantee.



This means people are allowed to keep more of their money before paying towards their adult social care.



For example, if you are a single adult aged between 18 to 24, the government says you need a minimum of **£89.15** per week.



Adults up to 65 years old can also get an extra **£49.65** added on top of this.

This extra amount is called a **disability premium**. It is to help pay for things some adults need because of a disability, health condition or long-term illness.



We then add an extra 25% on top of the minimum amount and disability premium, which is **£34.70**.



This means you would keep **£173.50** per week before paying anything towards your adult social care.

The change we are suggesting

The council is thinking about removing the extra 25% we add on, in 2 steps:



- From late 2025 - reduce the extra amount from 25% to 10%.



- From late 2026 - remove the extra amount completely.



We are not changing the government's minimum income guarantee.



We are not changing any benefits you get, like extra money you get to support you with a disability.

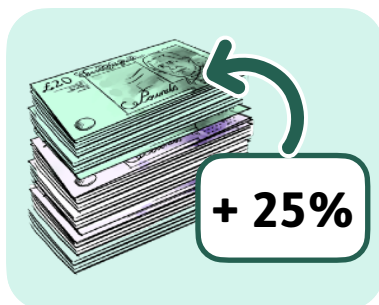
Why we are suggesting the change



Like many other councils, Waltham Forest Borough Council has less money than it used to.



We need to save at least £25 million over the next 3 years to keep our services running.



We are one of the few councils that add extra on to the government's minimum income guarantee.



If we reduce the extra we add on completely, like most other councils, it could help to save about £1 million every year.

What do you think?



Question 1a: Do you use adult social care services provided by Waltham Forest Borough Council?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

I do not know

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 1b: Do you pay towards the adult social care services you use?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

No

☐

I pay towards some of the cost

☐

I pay the full cost

☐

I do not know

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 2a: Do you support someone who uses adult social care services provided by Waltham Forest Borough Council?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

I do not know

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 2b: Does the person you support pay towards the adult social care services they use?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

No

☐

They pay towards some of the cost

☐

They pay the full cost

☐

I do not know

☐

I prefer not to say

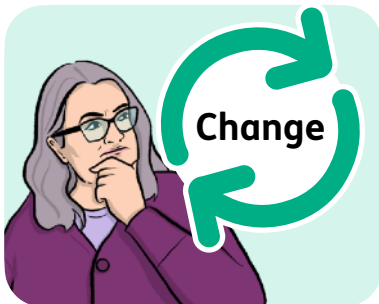
We have said we want to reduce the extra 25% we add on to the government's minimum income guarantee in 2 steps:



- From late 2025 - reduce the extra amount from 25% to 10%.



- From late 2026 - remove the extra amount completely.



Question 3: How much do you agree or disagree with this change?

Please tick 1 box only.

Agree
a lot

Agree

Neither

Disagree

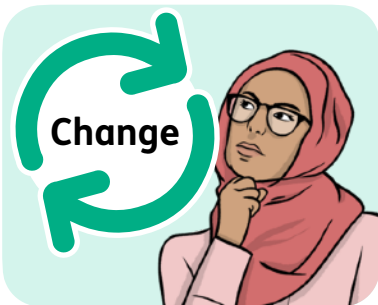
Disagree
a lot

Do not
know

☐☐☐☐☐☐



Please use this box to tell us more about why you agree or disagree with the change:



Question 4: How would it affect you if we made the change?

Please tick 1 box only.

Very good effect

Quite good effect

Neither

Quite bad effect

Very bad effect

Do not know

☐☐☐☐☐☐



Please use this box to tell us more about how it would affect you if we made the change:



We did think about some other ideas, instead of reducing the extra 25% we add on to the government's minimum income guarantee.



Question 5: Do you think we should use any of these ideas instead?

Please tick as many boxes as you want.

☐

Completely remove the extra 25% add on straight away, instead of doing it in 2 steps

☐

Completely remove the extra 25% add on in 2 steps, but reduce it down to 5% first instead of 10%

☐

Do not change anything, keep the extra 25% add on as it is now

☐

Reduce the extra 25% add on, but not completely. The council should still add on at least 5%

☐

I do not know

☐

Something else - please tell us in the box on the next page



Use this box to tell us about another idea the council should think about:



Question 6: What support do you think the council should give to people who will be most affected by the changes?

Please tick as many boxes as you want.

☐

Flexible plans to help people choose when they pay

☐

Advice services that help people manage their money

☐

Help with getting benefits

☐

Looking into the person's situation with money

☐

Information about what help and support people can get

☐

Meeting with a social worker to look at what extra support the person could get

☐

Extra money for people who find it the most difficult to afford what they need to live

☐

I do not know

☐

Something else - please tell us in the box on the next page



Use this box to tell us about what other support the council should give:



Question 7: Do you have any other comments about our idea to completely remove the extra 25% we add on to the government's minimum income guarantee?

About you



These questions are about you.

Your answers will help us to make sure we are being fair to everyone.



Question 8: Which of these answers best describes you?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

I live in Waltham Forest

☐

I support someone who lives in Waltham Forest

☐

I work for a voluntary group or a charity in Waltham Forest

☐

I work for an organisation that provides social care services

☐

I work for another type of organisation

There are more answers on the next page.

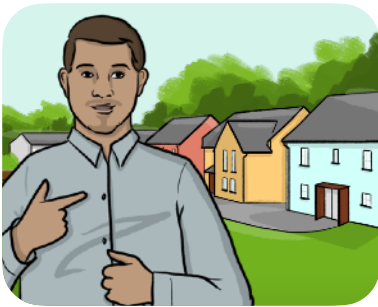
☐

Other

☐

I prefer not to say

If you said **other** or **another type of organisation**, please say what:



Question 9: Which part of Waltham Forest do you live in?

☐

North – this includes Chingford, Highams Park, North Chingford and Chingford Mount

☐

Central – this includes Walthamstow, Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow Village, Wood Street, Higham Hill, St James Street and Markhouse Road area

There are more answers on the next page.

☐

South – this includes Leyton, Leytonstone, Lea Bridge, Bakers Arms, Low Hall and Whipps Cross

☐

I do not live in Waltham Forest

☐

I do not know

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 10: How old are you?

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 11a: Do you have any long-term health conditions or illnesses?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Yes, and it affects my life a lot

☐

Yes, and it affects my life a little bit

☐

Yes, but they do not affect my life at all

☐

No

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 11b: Which of these answers describes your health condition or illness?

Please tick as many boxes as you want.

☐

I have a physical disability or find it difficult to move around

☐

I have a sensory impairment, like finding it difficult to hear or see

☐

I have a learning disability or learning difficulty

☐

I have a mental health condition

☐

I have a long-term illness, like diabetes or cancer

☐

I prefer not to say

☐

Other - please say what:



Question 12a: Do you consider yourself to be neurodivergent, like being autistic, dyslexic or having **ADHD**?

ADHD stands for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

I prefer not to say

Question 12b: If you consider yourself to be neurodivergent, which of these answers best describes your condition?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Autism Spectrum Condition, called ASC for short

☐

ADHD

There are more answers on the next page.

☐

Dyslexia

☐

I prefer not to say

☐

Other - please say what:



Question 13: Are you a care experienced person?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

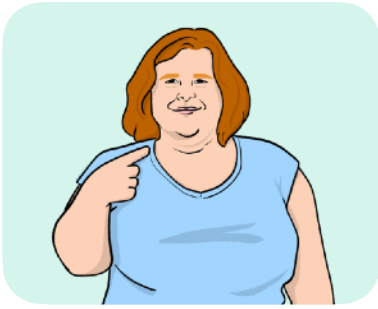
Yes

☐

No

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 14: Which of these answers best describes the job of the person who earns the most money in your household?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Senior manager

☐

Manager or professional

☐

Supervisor or junior manager

☐

Skilled manual labour, like an electrician

☐

Unskilled manual labour, like helping on a building site

☐

Student

☐

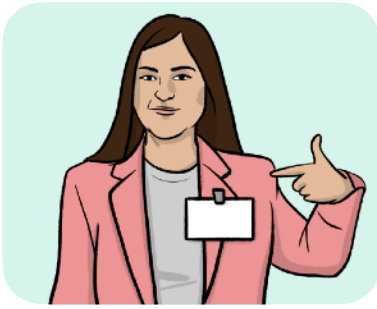
Retired

☐

Unemployed for more than 6 months, or off work with long-term sickness

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 15: Which of these answers best describes your job situation now?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

In full-time work

☐

In part-time work

☐

Self employed

☐

On a government training programme, like an apprenticeship

☐

Unemployed and available to work

☐

Unable to work because of my disability or long-term illness

☐

Retired

☐

Looking after my family

☐

In full-time education, like school, college or university

☐

Something else

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 16: What is your ethnic group or background?
Please tick 1 box only.

White

☐

English, Welsh, Scottish,
Northern Irish or British

☐

Irish

☐

Gypsy or Irish Traveller

☐

Roma

☐

Central or Eastern European

☐

Any other white background

Mixed

☐

White and Black Caribbean

☐

White and Black African

☐

White and Asian

☐

Any other Mixed background

Asian or Asian British

☐

Indian

☐

Pakistani

☐

Bangladeshi

☐

Chinese

☐

Any other Asian background

Black or Black British

☐

Caribbean

☐

African

☐

Any other Black, Black British,
Caribbean or African
background

Other ethnic group

☐

Arab

☐

Another ethnic group

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 17: What is your sex?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

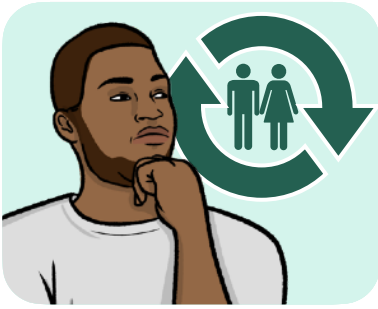
Female

☐

Male

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 18: Is your gender the same as the one you were given when you were born?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

I prefer not to say



Question 19: Which of these answers best describes your sexual orientation?

Please tick 1 box only.

☐

Straight - you are attracted to people of the opposite sex

☐

Gay or lesbian - you are attracted to people of the same sex as yourself

☐

Bisexual - you are attracted to people of both sexes

☐

I use another word to describe my sexual orientation

☐

I prefer not to say

Thank you



Thank you for answering the questions.



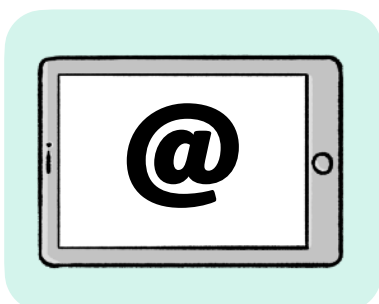
Please now send your answers back to us before Wednesday, 13 August 2025.

You can send your answers back by:



- **Post:** Business reply licence number: RUER-BYCU-TEJA
Waltham Forest social care survey
c/o Public Perspectives
PO Box 1340
St. Albans
AL1 9NT

You do not need a stamp.

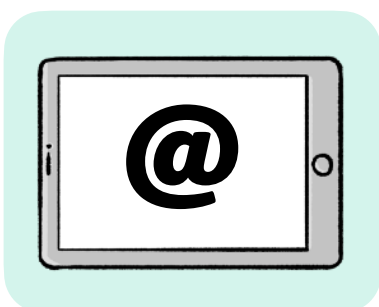


- **Email:**
CSPAHub@Walthamforest.gov.uk

Find out more



You can look at our website here:
<https://bit.ly/mig-wf>



You can contact us by email:
CSPAHub@Walthamforest.gov.uk

This Easy Read booklet was produced by easy-read-online.co.uk
The booklet includes images licensed from Photosymbols & Shutterstock.