

Care Contributions questions:

1. In the table of figures on page 1 of the Care Contributions update briefing, where it says “Monthly Total”, should that actually be “Annual Total”?
2. In the same table, to which of the four categories of resident do physically disabled adults aged 18-65 belong? There is one category for older people and two categories for mental health so the only other option is Learning Disabilities. Are there no physically disabled adults aged 18-65 who do not have learning disabilities?
3. The main question though is ... at the February meeting, Pauline said that the Fairer Contributions Policy had been brought in in 2015 and there was no reason why charges would have increased in the last two years, as families of service users at Bede House have been reporting. However, apparently there was a revised approach which was implemented in April 2021 (Cabinet paper dated 24 March 2020), so could she explain more about this and why this has resulted in charges being made which were never made before or in charges increasing significantly?
4. There was a question asked previously but it might have got lost so its repeated here: “The national statistic for care charges being taken to the Ombudsman is that approximately 70% of cases are overturned. Can you confirm what the statistic is for Southwark and can you confirm what the cost to the Council is of such challenges being taken to the Ombudsman?”
5. Finally, are there plans to further increase the charges in the next budget year?