

CHARGES

Since the 1970s many people paid money to live in a residential service.

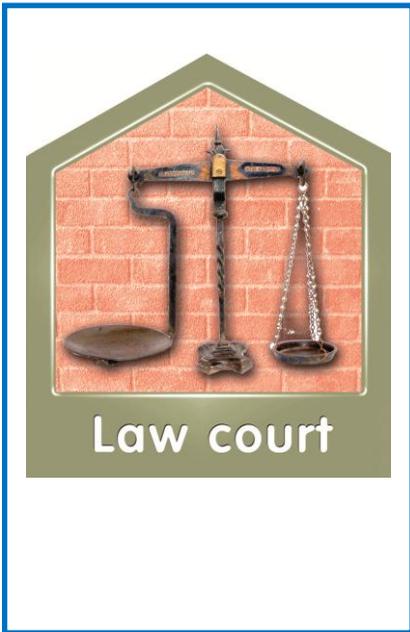
In 2004 the Court decided that this was against the law.

The court also said that all the money should be paid back.

In 2005 a new law was brought in.

The new law said that people who lived in residential services had to pay a health charge.

People in residential services have had to pay this health charge since 2007.





Long-Stay Contributions

From January 1st 2017 these charges will now be called Long-Stay Contributions.

Up until now there were just 2 types of Contribution.

But now there are 3 types of Contribution.

Category A is where there is a nurse in the building 24 hours a day.

Category B is where there is a nurse in the building for less than 24 hours a day.

Category C is where there is no nurse in the building for the 24 hours a day.

Long-Stay Contributions

Long-stay means that a person has spent more than 30 days over 12 months in residential support provided by a service provider.

HOW MUCH ARE THE CONTRIBUTIONS?

The contributions are there to cover all housing related costs for you in your home.

Category A Contributions are €175.00 every week.

Category B Contributions are €130.00 every week.

Category C contributions are €70.00 every week.

These are the most you should have to pay.



Disability Allowance (DA)

If your only income is Disability Allowance (€188 per week), then you do not have to pay as much:

If you get DA and are in Category A the most you should have to pay is €155 per week.

If you are in Category B the most you should have to pay is €120 per week.

If you are in Category C the most you should have to pay is €70 per week.



PAYING THE CONTRIBUTION

The contribution is paid to the service provider

The contribution can be taken out of the Disability Allowance every week or paid directly into a bank account.

Every person should have their contribution decided separately.

A person's contribution may be smaller if they have expenses such as sports, holidays, savings or health insurance.



Getting a “waiver”

If you already have other things to pay for, you can ask to pay less money.



This is called a waiver.

If you get a waiver it means you can pay a reduced amount or no amount at all.

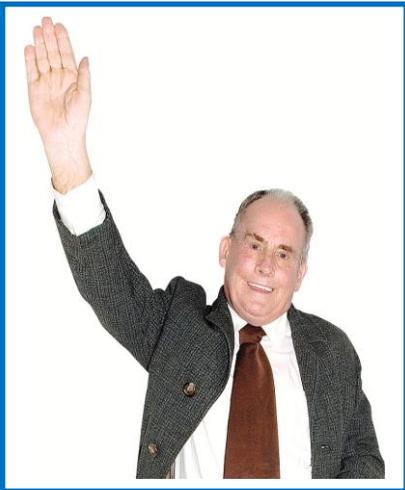
An individual may have costs such as;

- Children
- Medical costs
- Life Assurance
- Rent or Mortgage
- Loans
- Travel
- Social activities (such as sports activities, community groups, going out for food etc.)



APPEALING THE CONTRIBUTION

If you are not happy with what you're paying you can ask to be assessed again.



An individual or their advocate can ask for the contribution to be lowered or taken away altogether.

A contribution will only be lowered or taken away if it is clear that the person can not afford to pay.

PROBLEMS WITH THE CONTRIBUTION

The contributions are large and people are left with little money to spend.

The contributions are the same for everyone no matter how much care a person needs.

People who live outside the service may still need to pay a contribution.

People have no say in how the money is spent.

Information about the contributions can be hard to get.



WHAT DOES INCLUSION IRELAND THINK?

Inclusion Ireland thinks;

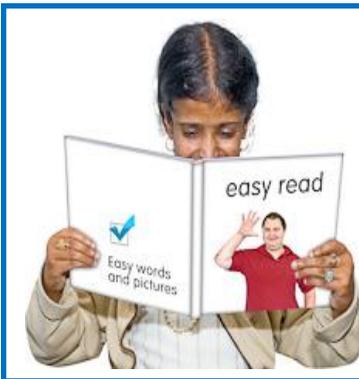


People should pay for their living costs but that this should be fair.

Each person should have their charge decided separately.

Everybody should have a clear plan for how their money is spent.

Information should be easy to understand.



Everybody should know that they can appeal and be helped to appeal if they need it.

The service should not decide how much the charge is. It should be decided by someone outside the service.

WHAT DO THE STANDARDS SAY ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTIONS?

The Health Information and Quality Authority have produced Standards for how people in residential services should be treated.

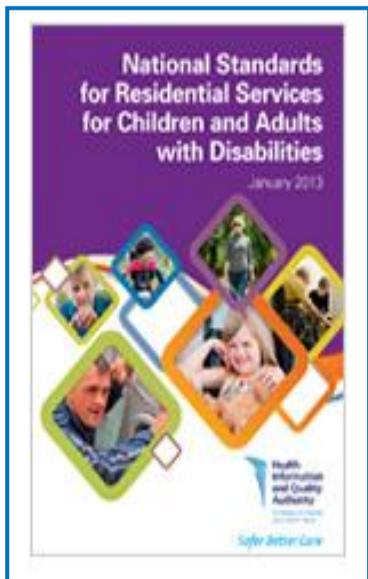
The Standards say that everybody should;

Be supported to have control over their own money.

Have access to their own money and spend it how they want to.

Be supported to nominate someone to help them with their money.

Have help and advice about their money, and to avail of an advocate where needed.



If you have more questions about the contributions you can contact us.

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Website

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Steelworks
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USEFUL LINKS

You can get all of this information in the post by calling Inclusion Ireland on 01 855 98 91

HSE information page on contributions:

<http://www.hse.ie/longstaycontributions>

HSE National Guidelines for contributions:

<http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/longstaycontributions/>

HIQA National Quality Standards: Residential Services for People with Disabilities

<https://www.hiqa.ie/standards/social/people-with-disabilities>

Inclusion Ireland 'Long-Stay Contributions'

<http://www.inclusionireland.ie/content/page/long-stay-contributions>