

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 12 OCTOBER 2017

**Question to Alan White
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing**

By Charlotte Atkins

Question

If staff choose to remain caring for their existing home care service users but under direct payment arrangements, who will be responsible for meeting the pay gap of over £2.50 an hour?

Reply

Under the new contract the Council will pay a standard rate of £16.10 per hour with an enhancement to £16.70 in rural areas. This allows providers to pay at least national Living Wage including for travel time. Where people choose to take a direct payment and buy care from an agency that charges higher rates they will be responsible for paying the difference.