

# nightingale hammerson

## Guide to Prospective Residents Applying for Local Authority Funding

A significant proportion of residents coming to live at Nightingale *or Hammerson* are supported by local authorities. This means that they have assets below the current local authority cut off point of £23,250, being the financial eligibility criteria.

***If a local authority suspects a prospective resident may be eligible for local authority funding, then they will then carry out an assessment on two levels – financial and care needs. Residents Services will advise the applicant, POA or next of kin to make an application to the relevant local authority.***

The assessment of the financial position will require the proposed resident to make a declaration of income and assets. If the local authority accepts that their financial eligibility criteria have been met, they will then arrange for a social worker to carry out a physical assessment to establish whether or not the proposed resident meets their eligibility criteria for residential or nursing care.

***Assuming that both sets of criteria are met, the local authority will then advise Nightingale or Hammerson of the level at which they will be prepared to fund. However, there will be a significant difference between this figure and our normal charges.***

***The charges per week levied by Nightingale Hammerson for the care provided are currently***

<b><i>Nightingale House</i></b>		<b><i>Hammerson House</i></b>	
<b><i>Residential</i></b>	<b><i>£980.00</i></b>	<b><i>Residential</i></b>	<b><i>£1100.00</i></b>
<b><i>Nursing</i></b>	<b><i>£1290.00</i></b>	<b><i>Nursing</i></b>	<b><i>£1290.00</i></b>
<b><i>Residential Dementia</i></b>	<b><i>£1130.00</i></b>		
<b><i>Nursing Dementia</i></b>	<b><i>£1440.00</i></b>		

***Please note that these normal charges fall well short of the current costs of caring for residents.***

In these circumstances the third party (usually the relative or next of kin) will be required to meet the shortfall between our normal charges and the local authority funding.

In certain circumstances, consideration will be given by the Trustees to a reduction in this payment and/or in *exceptional circumstances* to waive it completely. Should the third party wish to make an application for a reduction in this sum, it will be necessary for an application to be made to a small board of Trustees who will consider such applications. This process will require the third party providing details of their own income, expenditure and assets.

The board will then confirm whether they require

- the whole fee should be paid
- a reduced payment may be made
- the payment can be waived completely (Nightingale Hammerson's charitable funds being used to meet the shortfall).

The decision of this board will be final. If the third party is unwilling to accept the decision of the board in relation to the payment of this sum, regrettably it will not be possible for the proposed resident to be admitted to Nightingale Hammerson. We would, however, be pleased to give whatever assistance we can in helping you to find an alternative suitable facility.

***Should the proposed resident or the third party decide to make a formal application to Nightingale's Residents Services, our in-house team will talk you through the entire process, explaining exactly what needs to be done at every stage.***

On *admission* into *Nightingale or Hammerson*, both the resident and the third party will be required to sign an agreement confirming the funding arrangement and set up a direct debit.

Nightingale Hammerson reserves the right to review any sums assessed as being payable from time to time. It is also open to the third party, should they so wish, to request a review should there be a significant positive or negative change in circumstances.

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Any questions relating to any of the above matters should be referred to the Residents Services Manager in the first instance who will then direct the enquiry to the appropriate person or authority for further information. ***The above rates and information are quoted as of May 2015.*** As you will see, the funding situation is complex. It is also subject to frequent change due to evolving government legislation. Further information can be obtained from the Freephone Age Concern Information Line on 0800 00 99 66. This organisation provides a range of highly informative leaflets