

Residential DPV: Key Contract Features

SERVICE LEVELS

- Core** 'Core' is the only Service Level. All placements are incorporated within this, including: specialist, emergency and therapeutic. Use 'Search Options' in CarePlace to filter the search and only contact relevant homes providers.

WEEKLY FEE: What's included?

(Core Services Specification for Residential Children's Home Services)

- School books/equipment
- Access to a computer with the internet
- Resources to meet religious/cultural need
- All food, including lunch at school or college
- Clothing (including school uniform)
- All toiletries, including glasses/contact lenses.
- Haircuts
- All telephone calls to family/LA staff
- Meetings with family/friends
- All group outings and agreed leisure activities, including day trips at school.
- An annual holiday if the duration of the placement is 6 months or more.
- Pocket money & allowances – to include clothing, personal needs, fares, telephone, birthday, holidays and festivals

TRANSPORT

(Core Services Specification for Residential Children's Home Services)

All day-to-day travel costs within a 20-mile radius of the home and/or up to 2 hours travel time for the home per day (whichever is the greatest). **Any additional mileage costs must be agreed in advance and in writing.** Any additional mileage will be charged at the prevailing Council rate of each of the purchasing Authorities. In London, the expectation is also for the child to be provided with an Oyster card whenever possible.

SAVINGS

(Core Services Specification for Residential Children's Home Services)

Minimum saving contribution of £5 per week. The exact amount should be mutually agreed at time of placement and added to the Individual Placement Agreement.

NOTICE PERIODS

(WLA Residential Model Contract: Section 15)

Standard notice periods applicable to the LA and the Residential Home are below.

Child in place for	Notice period
7 days or less	1 day
More than 1 week but less than 7 weeks	7 days
More than 12 weeks but less than 6 months	14 days
More than 6 months	28 days

Notice periods can be changed through mutual agreement. There are also scenarios when they may not apply. For example:

- Child's needs cannot be met in placement
- Placement has broken down
- Potential for significant harm to the child/another child in placement.
- Recommendation by local Safeguarding Board
- Direction by court for child to live elsewhere
- Where child aged 16+ discharges themselves from the placement.
- The child is absent for more than 7 days (Model Contract 10.5.3)

Notice must be given in writing. If a provider gives notice they must also provide a final written assessment before the child leaves.

RETAINERS

(WLA Residential Model Contract: Section 10)

Where applicable, any agreed retainer to secure a place for an individual child will be detailed in the IPA. **Retainers can be no more than 50% of the Home's DPV price.**

FEES

(WLA Pricing Schedule)

Prices submitted by providers on the DPV (i.e. those in CarePlace) are ceiling rates. Providers can charge less than these prices but should not charge above them. Prices agreed at time of call-off will be fixed for the entire duration of the placement.

Providers should only charge above the ceiling rate in exceptional situations. If increased costs are agreed by both parties the additional support services should be set out clearly in the IPA and should include regular review dates.

Please note that most providers have already submitted costs for some 'Additional Services' that they offer (e.g. cost of education and the hourly rate for additional staffing hours). This information is on the Provider's profile page. The Provider cannot charge above this submitted rate.

The WLA Contracts Team are available to offer support/advice if you feel a provider is charging above the ceiling rate without justification.

As part of the negotiation process, Local Authorities can look on CarePlace to see what a provider has charged other Local Authorities.

LONG TERM DISCOUNTS

(WLA Pricing Schedule)

Where a child/young person has been in placement for 9 months+ a 3% discount will be applied by the provider to their invoices. (Pricing Schedule D)