

#### **4 NON RESIDENTIAL CARE CHARGING POLICY (AN544-2003)**

It is reported that the Government's introduction of Pension Credit and Savings Credit on 6th October, 2003 has resulted in the need for some adjustments to the Council's non-residential care charging policy. The calculation of tariff income on capital and the weekly income amounts to be disregarded for charging calculation purposes have to be changed to ensure the benefits of Pension Credit and Savings Credit are not cancelled out by a corresponding increase in charge for non-residential care.

The required changes are as follows:

- (i) For residential and non-residential care service users over 60 years of age, tariff income will be calculated at £1 per £500 of savings/capital.
- (ii) For non-residential care service users who are over 65 years with access to Savings Credit, the weekly amount of income to be disregarded before calculating charges is increased by 4% to 16.5% above the Guarantee Credit level. This will result in the weekly disregard for a single person increasing from £115 to £119 and for a couple from £175 to £181.50.

Both of these adjustments will have at worst a neutral impact on the service user.

The Committee is asked to approve the above changes, backdated to take effect from 6th October, 2003.