Issue 12

Dear Colleague,

By now you should hopefully have had a chance to read the bulletin we issued on Friday, relating to your frequently asked questions about financial matters. This bulletin can be accessed on the **provider area** of our website.

Residential and Nursing Care Fees - Inflationary Uplift 2020/21

The purpose of this bulletin is to advise you of the fees that will apply for the financial year 2020/21. At the end of this bulletin, there is also an update on COVID-19.

Band rates will be increased by 4.1%, which is a blended rate that takes account of the Consumer Price Index (CPIH) annual inflation rate of 1.4%, and the National Living Wage increase for 2021 of 6.2%. Supplementary Needs Allowance Payments will be increased by 6.2%.

The National Living Wage has been used to calculate the increase for this year only. In April 2021 we will review the 2 years together (20/21 and 21/22) based on normal contract indices, but there won't be a clawback.

New Fees for Leicestershire Older Adult Providers

Residential - £603 per week Residential Plus - £665 per week

Where there are additional needs not catered for in the band rates a Supplementary Needs Allowance (SNA) payment will be made at a rate of £12.54 per hour.

New Fees for Leicestershire Working Age Adult Providers

Working Age Adult (Progression) - £758 per week

For residents with more complex needs and therefore higher fees the National Care Funding Calculator, which estimates the cost of care, will be used to negotiate the fee.

These increases will take effect from Monday 6 April 2020.

Out of County Placements

For residents that fall into the host Local Authority rate structure, the Council will continue with its current practice of paying fees at the host Local Authority rate.

In circumstances where the host Local Authority backdates fee increases or payments, the Council will match those fees within the current financial year only. For out of county residents with more complex needs and therefore higher fees, the Council will increase fees in line with the host Local Authority fee increase.

Out of county providers must advise Leicestershire County Council of changes in host authority rates to ensure those fees are matched.

COVID-19

The Council is committed to supporting providers and ensuring the fees paid reflect the actual costs of care and recognises the importance of providers sustaining current service levels and being able to support new residents.

COVID-19 will result in additional costs for providers and the Council understands the importance of maintaining the financial sustainability of care homes and ensuring that additional cost, such as those relating to PPE or sick pay, can be met.

We are currently looking at options for how we can recognise these additional costs in our payment arrangements, and will communicate this to all providers as soon as possible. There will be a need for providers to record and evidence the additional expenditure incurred as a result of COVID-19 so that we can target resources where they are needed and administer payments quickly.

If you need any further information, please email feereview@leics.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

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