**Care Home Grants Programme 2021**

Dear Provider

With reference to our recently launched Care Home Grants Programme 2021, please be aware of the following information.

The Council is required to comply with State Aid law in relation to any grants provided under this scheme.

In simple terms, State Aid can occur where state resources are used to give financial advantages to businesses in a way that could distort competition.

There are however certain limited exceptions, including the ‘De Minimis’ regulation. This regulation allows small amounts of aid – less than 200,000 Euros over 3 rolling years – to be given to an undertaking for a wide range of purposes.

A letter to all providers will be circulated on 4th January which will require you confirm that you have not already received ‘De Minimis aid’ that exceeds the stated 200,000 Euros maximum amount in the last 3 years.

This letter will be in line with the format set out at page 75 of the State Aid manual produced by the ‘Department for Business, Innovation and Skill’s, a copy of which can be found at:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/607691/bis-15-148-state-aid-manual-update.pdf>

You will be required to return your declaration along with your completed application form to:

diane.clayton@sefton.gov.uk or ben.malone@sefton.gov.uk

(Please note some of you may have done something similar regarding Infection Control Fund applications so may already be aware of this but because this funding was COVID related the minimum amount was higher at 800,000 euros).