**Extra Care Fees Consultation**

**2022/2023**

**Q & A**

**This Q&A document has been produced following the Provider session on 7th March 2022 and reflects questions raised at that session, which may have related to Supported Living, but may also be applicable for Extra Care as the rates are currently aligned.**

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| **No.** | **Question and Answer** |
|  | **Q. Can we see a breakdown of ‘other costs’? This will enable us to provide a reconciliation.**  **A.** The Extra care rate is currently aligned to the Supported Living rate. The RedQuadrant report relating to Supported Living resulted in an overall hourly rate of £13.14, of which £2.20 was attributed to ‘other costs’   * These ‘other costs’ were for elements such as:   + Mileage   + Uniforms   + Registration fees (DBS etc)   + Recruitment   + I.T. and Communications   + Rostering / administration   + Central / regional management   + Support services   + Premises * A specific amount within the £2.20 for each element is not detailed in the RedQuadrant report – as previously advised it is acknowledged that Providers will have different cost models and when submitting information as part of the consultation response process, they may wish to outline current ‘other costs’ which could include the above elements but also any other elements that Providers feel should be referenced. |
|  | **Q.** Has the annual leave been increased because of the bank holiday?  **A.** No. Services would still be delivered on these days and therefore the Provider would be paid based on the agreed hourly rate. |
| **3.** | **Q.** The National Living Wage is not enough to recruit the calibre of staff needed to provide the care needed. Do the Councillors realise that the budget allocated will be reducing the quality provided?  **A.** The Council does appreciate that it is a challenging time, however, when considering market costs we have to do so within the context of what is affordable to the Council and our available budget. We appreciate that this is challenging both at a local and national level. and subject to the national position. Sefton, along with other Councils in similar positions have lobbied to ADASS, who in turn are sharing concerns with Central Government.  Providers can reflect these issues in their consultation responses in relation to the proposals and we will reflect your feedback in the Cabinet report. Please send evidence to us at[**commissioningandcontracts@sefton.gov.uk**](mailto:commissioningandcontracts@sefton.gov.uk)  The Council has allocated funds from national grants (such as the WRRF) to Providers, but is conscious that these are time limited, so we are also looking at wider initiatives that we can implement to support Providers with recruitment and retention. |
| **4.** | **Q.** The National Living Wage is not competitive compared to other sectors. We have increased recruitment and agency costs and high costs of utilities. Do you want us to evidence these costs?  **A.** Yes, please provide evidence to the email address above. The evidence will be used to inform final fee proposals/decisions and would then be reflected in the final Cabinet report. |
|  | **Q.** Do you have to have responses by the 10th April?  **A.** Yes, all responses should be received by midnight on the 10th April 2022. |
| **6.** | **Q.** Will the fees be backdated?  **A.** Yes, the fees will be backdated to the 1st April 2022 and once the fee rate is ratified by Cabinet it will be automatically implemented in our finance system. |
| **7.** | **Q.** Can you share the Red Quadrant analysis?  **A.** Please see response to question 1 |
| **8.** | **Q.** Can the breakdown of the on-costs for the sleep-in rate be shared with providers?  **A.** The calculation of NLW + 15% was based ona previous analysis of the market and following our benchmarking work with other Local Authorities and the Council not seeking to implement flat rates based on legal judgements.  As part of the response to the consultation, it would be very helpful for providers to feedback on current sleep-in rates they pay to staff and how these are calculated and formulated which could inform our future modelling of costs in relation to the wider market. |