

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children Services

DECISION NO.

16/00133

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject:

PROPOSED REVISION OF RATES PAYABLE AND CHARGES LEVIED FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN 2017-18

Decision: In line with the recommendations in the report on the Proposed Revision of Rates Payable and Charges Levied for Children's Services in 2017-18, as Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services I:

a) **APPROVE** the increase to:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---------|
| i. | All Placement under 2 | £148.62 |
| | All Placements 2-4 | £152.92 |
| | All Placements 5-8 | £170.15 |
| | All Placements 9-10 | £170.15 |
| | All Placements 11-15 | £192.77 |
| | All Placements 16-17 | £227.23 |
| | All Placements 18+ | £227.23 |
- ii. The Foster Care Reward element to increase to:
Non related placements 0-8 yrs - £110.29
Non related placements 9-18 yrs - £209.49
- iii. The Disability Enhancement Rate
Standard based on 30% of Higher Reward Element - £62.85
Enhanced based on 40% of Higher Reward Element - £83.80
- iv. The Foster Care Skills based payment increase to:
Level 2 - £20.43
Level 2 - £51.05
- v. The Single placement supplement increase to:
Age 0-8 yrs - £220.58
Age 9-18 yrs £418.98
- vi. To increase the Therapeutic Fostering Supplement to: £646.21
- vii. For Local Authority Charges for Children Services:
viii. Assessment hourly rate to increase to £70.27 per hour.
ix. Administration Fee increase to £10.46

b) **NOTE**

- x. The rates which are dictated by external agencies ie inter-agency charges and Essential Living Allowance.

c) CONFIRM

xi. The charge for other Local Authorities for use of in-house respite residential beds is to be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery.

d) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

The proposed rates payable and charges levied are considered annually, with any revisions normally introduced at the start of each financial year.

The report is focused on Children's and the rates and charges that are currently in place, with the Adult's Social Services presented separately.

The rates and charges payable for 2017/18 will be introduced the week commencing 1 April 2017. This has been confirmed with the Department of Education.

The report distinguishes between those rates and charges over which Members can exercise their discretion, and those which are laid down by Parliament.

Financial Implications:

The increase in income and the increase in payments that these changes will bring have been included in the 9 February 2017 County Council agreed budgets for the services affected.

Equality Implications:

None

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision was discussed at the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 23 March 2017. Miss M Goldsmith, Finance Business Partner, was in attendance for this item.

Miss Goldsmith introduced the report and Mr Segurola responded to a question about the cost of services provided to children in care placed by other local authorities within Kent. These costs were not extensive, relating only to in-house respite residential beds, but were recouped by the County Council.

RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services, to:

a) **APPROVE** the proposed changes to rates payable and charges levied for Children's Services in 2017-18, as set out in the recommendation report.

b) **NOTE** the rates which are dictated by external agencies i.e. Inter-agency charges and Essential Living Allowance;

c) **CONFIRM** the charge for other Local Authorities for use of in-house respite residential beds is to be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery; and

d) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision,

be endorsed.

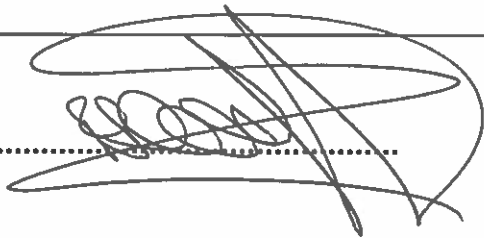
Any alternatives considered:

As noted, elements of these revisions are set by external agencies and are not subject to discretion.

For the discretionary elements, alternative percentages were considered but, established principles of using the previous September CPI figure was retained, with one exception where a higher increase is recommended for the Foster Carer Reward element

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None

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signed

28.3.17
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date

