

From: Clair Bell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
Richard Smith, Corporate Director Adult Social Care and Health

To: Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee – 13 July 2022

Subject: **DECISIONS TAKEN OUTSIDE OF THE CABINET COMMITTEE MEETING CYCLE**

Classification: Unrestricted

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Summary: The following decision has been taken between meetings as it could not reasonably be deferred to the next programmed meeting of the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee for the reason set out below.

Recommendation: The Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** that the following decision has been taken in accordance with the process in Part 2 paragraph 12.36 of the Constitution:

22/00063 - Additional Mid Year Adult Social Care Community Contract Fee Uplifts

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In accordance with the council's governance arrangements, all significant or Key Decisions must be listed in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions and should be submitted to the relevant Cabinet Committee for endorsement or recommendation prior to the decision being taken by the Cabinet Member or Cabinet.
- 1.2 For the reason set out below it has not been possible for this decision to be discussed by the Cabinet Committee prior to being taken by the Cabinet Member. Therefore, in accordance with process set out in Part 2 paragraph 12.36 of the Constitution, the following decision has been taken and published to all Members of this Cabinet Committee and the Scrutiny Committee.

2. Decision

22/00063 -Additional Mid Year Adult Social Care Community Contract Fee Uplifts

The exponential increase in fuel costs and the general cost of living increases means that for community providers the 3% fee uplift applied in April is not sufficient to meet the rising costs of delivery, leading to an increased number of unmet care packages as framework providers are unable to meet the costs of delivering these. Providers have highlighted that they are facing spending

pressures from inflation and increased pay and national insurance costs in excess of the average 3% provision for locally negotiated fee uplifts that was affordable within the 2022-23 budget. The 3% fee uplift was set, taking into account the Kent pay scheme recommendations for 2022-23, the significant financial support given to providers over the last two years, and the available funding for 2022-23 raised through council tax and government grant settlement.

The most efficient way to offset these pressures is to provide an additional mid-year fee uplift to ensure community providers have sufficient capacity to continue to deliver key services.

Updates to client management systems will require a considerable amount of information to be made available in a timely manner to enable the systems to correctly reflect the decision made. The scope of the fee uplifts, in terms of eligible services and providers, rates to be applied and requirements for automated and manual inputting of data, will be required at key points in July to enable test runs of data in the systems.

All additional fee uplifts will be made as soon as all system changes and arrangements are in place, and this will be no later than 15 August. This enables a logical process for communication to providers as their invoices are clear and are based on full weeks. Further, this links in to benefit reassessments and other factors.

3. Recommendation

3.1 Recommendation: The Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee is asked to **NOTE** that the following decision has been taken in accordance with process set out in Part 2 paragraph 12.36 of the Council's Constitution:

22/00063 - Additional Mid Year Adult Social Care Community Contract Fee Uplifts

4. Background documents

22/00063 - Additional Mid Year Adult Social Care Community Contract Fee Uplifts
<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=2615>

5. Report Author

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