

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

## DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

## DECISION NO:

15/00089

### For publication

### Key decision

Affects all electoral divisions and expenditure of more than £1m.

**Subject:** Establishment of the Provisional Guide Prices for Older Persons' Residential and Nursing Care Homes from April 2016

### Decision:

As the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health I agree:

- The establishment of the Provisional Guide Prices for Older Persons' Residential and Nursing Care Homes from April 2016, as set out below:

	Guide Price 2014	Provisional Guide Price 2016	% increase
	£	£	%
Residential (All Areas)	352.18	367.99	4%
Residential High Area 1	408.48	448.72	10%
Residential High Area 2	440.30	448.72	2%
Nursing Medium Area 1	450.72	497.81	10%
Nursing Medium Area 2	487.42	497.81	2%
Nursing High Area 1	450.72	523.01	16%
Nursing High Area 2	487.42	523.01	7%

- That the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, undertake the necessary actions to implement this decision.

### Reason(s) for decision:

To inform the pricing mechanism in the tender for services for older persons' residential and nursing care homes

This decision is provisional pending the confirmation of the 2016/17 budget at County Council in February 2016. However, in order to align to the procurement timetable for the new older persons' residential and nursing care home contract, this provisional decision is required.

The rates shown above do not include any impact on the National Living Wage which will be introduced from April 2016 and therefore the prices may need to be adjusted following the settlement of the Comprehensive Spending Review due in November 2015.

A further key decision will be required in February 2016 to confirm the Guide Prices for use from April 2016, and for the contract award.

This is in accordance with the commitment given in July 2014 to remove the area banding across the County and to bring nursing prices more to the average prices that were the initial outcome of the analysis in 2014. The commitment was to level this over a three year period, which has been achieved with the addition of a category of Nursing High.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

The 11 September 2015 Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee considered a report on the issue. Officers explained the changes which were being proposed to the contract, and the context for those changes, and responded to comments and questions from Members, as follows:-

- a) the decision would be taken in two stages; the guide price would be determined in November and the contract awarded in February. Demand and price would need to be balanced, and this would take much analysis; and
  - b) a forecast of the impact of the changes would be that fewer people would require a residential or nursing placement but those who did would have a greater dependency.
1. The Cabinet Member, Mr G K Gibbens, assured Members that, although he would be taking the first decision (about guide price) before the committee next met in early December, all Members would have an opportunity to see and comment on the proposed decision, as part of the County Council's usual decision-making process. He urged all Members to take the opportunity to read the proposed decision paperwork when it was published and sent to them.
  2. RESOLVED that the work on this issue to date be endorsed and continue to the decision stage, as set out in the report.

**Any alternatives considered:**

Not establishing a Guide Price. However, the market has asked for one and the establishment of a Guide Price helps provide clarity to individuals when choosing care as to the price the KCC usually expects to pay for residential and nursing care. (Availability of Accommodation under the Care Act is understood regarding a 'moving' Guide Price, dependent on the level of responses and subsequent availability)

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None**



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Signed

6 NOVEMBER 2015

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date