



Information

for adult social care providers

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Issue 39

Dear Colleague,

This bulletin focusses exclusively on financial matters and I hope that you find it informative.

Leicestershire County Council support in August and September for adult social care providers' additional Covid-19 costs

You will recall that in bulletin 34 we advised that payments would be made in August and September 2020 to support providers with their additional COVID-19 costs. We can now give further detail about these payments.

Home care

This payment is being calculated by applying £1.30 per hour to commissioned hours for the 5-week care period 27 July to 30 August. The actual payment day is expected during week commencing 17th August.

The basis for the September payment will remain the same and will cover the 4-week care period 31 August to 27 September.

Residential care

There will be a payment of £25 per service user per week for both August and September. For August the calculation will be based on the commissioned packages for the 5-week care period 27 July to 30 August, and for September it will be based on the commissioned packages for the 4-week care period 31 August to 27 September.

Supported Living

There will be a payment of £25 per service user per week for both August and September. For August the calculation will be based on the commissioned packages for the 5-week care period 27 July to 30 August, and for September it will be based on the commissioned packages for the 4-week care period 31 August to 27 September.

Home care providers – ‘top up’ payment

In previous bulletins, we have discussed giving some certainty to the level of income that home care providers can earn with the introduction of a ‘top-up’ payment calculation.

We have given a guarantee that the payment for the hours commissioned and delivered for four payment periods covering 23 March to 12 July 2020, will not fall below the commissioned cost for the (pre-COVID) base period (27 January to 23 February 2020).

We have made a ‘top-up’ where the commissioned cost and the actual cost for the payment care periods (23 March to 14 June) are both lower than the commissioned cost for the base period.

We are currently calculating the fourth and final top-up and where a provider payment is required, we expect to make this payment by the end of August. We will inform you of the actual payment day, which will be by the end of August

Forward Payment

As per our previous bulletins, to support providers’ cashflow we made a ‘forward payment’ in April, which was a recoverable temporary payment, which we informed would not be recovered before September.

We are offering the repayment of the forward payment either in full or over a three-monthly instalment plan. This week, we have issued a letter to each provider to detail the forward payment made, which for residential will include each care home separately.

The letter will contain a ‘Preferred Payment Option’ document for the provider to specify their preferred payment method and return to FinOpsCovidPayments@leics.gov.uk by 14 August. Where the instalment plan is selected, the standing order mandate will also need to be completed and returned.

Upon return of the ‘Preferred Payment Option’, we will raise an invoice to the provider, which will become due for payment by 16 October if a provider has elected to pay in full, or over three instalments by 16 October / 16 November and 16 December.

Infection Control Fund

The council has received the second tranche of the Infection Control Fund from the Department for Health and Social Care and is in the process of issuing payments.

Care homes

A second payment of £530 per registered bed will be made and should arrive in care home bank accounts on 7 August. This payment combined with the first payment of

£481 per bed means that a total sum of £1,011 per bed will have been distributed. Therefore, some £5m will have been distributed to residential and nursing care homes across Leicestershire to support infection control measures.

The second payment is higher than anticipated because we have now confirmed the small number of homes and beds that are closed and will not therefore attract a payment. An updated agreement schedule will be issued to each home to reflect the higher payment to ensure records are up to date, but there will be no need to sign and return it.

Home care, extra care and supported living

Over 120 providers have returned information relating to over 4,000 clients they support including self-funders and direct payment users. A total payment will be made of £336 per client and we expect to make this payment in mid to late August. Providers supporting people on managed services that received an initial payment will see that amount deducted from the total amount due.

With thanks to the Leicestershire Homecare Alliance, additional eligibility guidance has been developed which highlights eligible items of expenditure relevant to home care provision. This will help all providers to allocate expenditure effectively. You can view the guidance online at [Home Care – ICF Expenditure Eligibility Guidance](#)

When the payments have been made, grant agreements will be issued to providers for signature and return.

As ever, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Jon Wilson
Director of Adults & Communities