**SEFTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Supported Living/Extra Care Providers Fees Consultation 2021/22**

**Q & A No. Question and Answer LEAD/STATUS**

1Q. The financial assumptions behind the proposed fee increase are not clear, can we have more information to inform our response to the consultation?

A. The proposed fee is based on the Councils established approach to the modelling of fee proposals as reflected in the original Red Quadrant formulae which considers the National Living Wage and the Consumer Price Index rates and increases.

For the providers who are not familiar with the formulae and its key principles we have outlined the approach in the form of a flow chart which will hopefully demonstrate how the model has been deployed and worked since 2017/18 and its subsequent contribution to the impact of agreed fee increases in Sefton.

In addition to the model and its key principles we have as part of our approach conducted benchmarking exercises with the Liverpool City Region.

Our rationale is based on a generic market approach considering the factors outlined which does mean that it is not bespoke to the specific costs associated to individual business models and priorities, for example some providers will place more importance on training compared to others based on a business decision which is right for them.

We have and continue to stress the importance of sharing your individual responses with us to help inform the final recommendations we will make following the end of the consultation process, so please contact us if you want to discuss your individual business model with us and we will be happy to do so. The lead contacts for Supported Living Providers are mailto:joanne.christensen@sefton.gov.uk

or Rebecca.bond@sefton.gov.uk and for Extra Care, please contact mailto:Alison.taylor@sefton.gov.uk

2Q. What about the National Real Living Wage?

A. We are committed to exploring this further with providers as outlined in the draft Market Position Statement subject to approval by Cabinet in April 2021.

3Q. Can you tell us what the Council is thinking in relation to sleep in payments going forward as we await the Appeal Court Ruling on the Tomlinson Blake v Royal Mencap case?

A. We are awaiting the Appeal Court ruling on the Tomlinson Blake v Royal Mencap judgement and will, further to the outcome, explore overnight support and sleep ins.

We will also consider alternative means of support such as Assistive Technology or responder type services going forward.

4Q. LCR are outliers in terms of fees across the country, what is Sefton’s response to that?

A. We will capture rates from outside of the LCR to add to our benchmarking and share with providers.

All markets are different in relation to for example, demographics, supply and nomination policies both within local regions and on a wider national footprint, such differences are then further influenced by local drivers in relation to such factors as demographics and affordability.

We would be happy to discuss further with providers to understand what leads to this difference based on the practical experience of delivering support in different parts of the country.

5Q. Does the Council have any information with regards to the PPE being available beyond March?

A. Yes, we can confirm that PPE will be available through the portals up to June 2021. We are awaiting further advice from central government in April with regards to any further support.