

## **Notes from the Care Home consultation meeting 16th March 2021**

Deborah Butcher went through the slides and the feedback from providers so far, reiterated the need for providers to add to these if anything was not reflected fully.

Providers asked for a copy of the list presented in the slides deck – agreed this would be sent as part of an email.

This is the final meeting before the close of the consultation and so need providers to contribute. Email will include a reminder with regards to this.

Deborah Butcher confirmed that the feedback will be considered internally before the cabinet member is briefed and the decision-making report produced.

Deborah Butcher outlined that there was further work to be done with regards to key areas like gross payments, integration, and the Market Position statement.

Question asked about what the separate COVID linked support would consist of as officers had advised that this would be part of separate discussions. Deborah Butcher said this would be looked at following the consultation around the Infection Control Grants and what was available. No further info from central government and funding provided had been time limited. Outlined that this year was going to be a challenging one for Adult Social Care in terms of financial issues.

Question asked about the payments for staff off sick and would the council support this when the Infection Control Grant monies ended at the end of March.

Mentioned that this was an expectation on the Capacity Tracker.

Deborah Butcher outlined that government had been lobbied but no news yet. Also, internal discussions needed re what was available from the grants and reconciliation of what was able to be distributed. The conditions of the grants had been inflexible, so this had created some issues re timeframes.

Assumption needed to be made if no feedback then this would need to end at the end of March as providers could not afford to carry on with the payments

Question asked if the 1% pension increases were built into the fee levels.

Deborah Butcher said she would look into this, however this was related to the Charging policy and also national guidance re charging. Details would be put on the web page when this has been looked at.

Mentioned that it is often difficult for provider when families see their costs increasing and they must try to explain.

Deborah Butcher said we would need to look at the guidance and what other LA's did re this.

Question in chat box asked why we would need to compare with other LA's

Deborah Butcher said as this was national guidance we would need to see if any other LA had done something differently

General view from providers was that Gross payments would resolve this.

Deborah Butcher asked for any final comments – referred again to the process and need for providers to contribute.