

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – ADULT CARE** held on 06 August 2020.

PRESENT

Councillor J Wharmby (in the Chair)

Also in attendance were Councillors C Dale, and S Swann.

33/20 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

34/20 **REVIEW OF URGENT OFFICER DECISIONS TAKEN TO SUPPORT THE COVID-19 RESPONSE** The Cabinet Member was provided with an update in relation to those actions which were the subject of Officer's Decisions utilising emergency decision making powers as detailed in the constitution and to provide assurance in relation to the reviews which had been undertaken.

In the main, the decisions related to short-term temporary arrangements which were subject to regular review. This was particularly important where subsequent Government guidance had been issued. It was intended that as Cabinet was now able to function by meetings being held 'remotely' the need for officers to make urgent decisions would now diminish. However, it was important that officer decisions were kept under regular review by elected members and officers. At the 4 June 2020 Cabinet meeting it was agreed that Cabinet would formally delegate review decisions to the relevant Cabinet Member meeting.

In Table 1 to the report, was an update on the reviews that had taken place since the last Cabinet Member meeting on 24 July 2020. All review decisions to date had been discussed with the Executive Director and Cabinet Member following review by SMT.

A copy of the most up to date version of the Officer Decision Records was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

RESOLVED to note (1) the review of decisions made under urgent delegated powers arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic; and (2) that future review decisions will be made on a fortnightly basis by the Cabinet Member for Adult Care.

35/20 **ADULT SOCIAL CARE INFECTION CONTROL FUND** On the 22 May 2020, the Minister of State for Care wrote to local authorities setting out details of how a new Infection Control Fund should be used. This

funding would be paid as a Section 31 grant, ring fenced exclusively for actions which supported care homes and domiciliary care providers which must only be used by them to tackle the risks of COVID-19 infections.

For Derbyshire the total fund was £9.741m, with the second tranche of two instalments equating to £4.870m. 75% of each instalment to be paid to care homes providers on a “per bed” basis with no distinction to be made whether the local authority had a contract with the provider or not. Payments had already been made and providers had submitted their declarations that they would use the funds in line with the grant criteria.

Payment was subject to the Provider having completed the Capacity Tracker at least once and being committed to completing the Tracker on a consistent basis. The local authority must remain satisfied at all times that the funding was being used for infection control purposes.

The local authority had the discretion to target the allocation of the remaining 25% of the funding to care homes or to domiciliary care providers and to support wider workforce resilience. The funding must only be used for infection control purposes. It should not be used for any fee uplift. Any unallocated funding from the 75% of the second tranche would be added to the 25% of funding available to be distributed as described in the report.

RESOLVED to agree to distribute 25% of the second tranche of the nationally distributed adult social care infection control fund to the following:

- £82.35 per care quality commission registered care bed;
- £192.16 per home care and supported living client including noncontracted care.

36/20 **BUDGET MONITORING 2020-21 – PERIOD 2 (as at 31 May 2020)** The Cabinet Member had been provided with an update of the Revenue Budget position of the Adult Care portfolio for 2020-21 up to the end of May (Period 2).

The net controllable budget for the Adult Care portfolio was £261.170m. The Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement prepared at period 2 indicated that there was a projected year-end overspend of £6.757m. This overspend would be supported by the use of £7.081m of additional Covid-19 funding. After the use of this funding the forecast position was an underspend of £0.324m.

Budget reductions totalling £3.784m were allocated for the year. There was an over-achievement of savings of £0.427m that was brought forward to the current year. This had resulted in total reductions to be achieved of £3.357m at the start of the year. It was forecast that £0.337m of savings would have been achieved by the year-end.

RESOLVED to note the report.

37/20 **REVIEW OF DIRECT CARE RESIDENTIAL RATES FOR SELF-FUNDERS IN HOMES FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY CARE CENTRES** Currently self-funding residents in Homes for Older People (HOPs) and Community Care Centres (CCCs) were charged at a weekly rate which was below the true cost of the provision.

However, due to increasing budget pressures, and a budget savings target of £21.346m over the next four financial years, it was no longer feasible to subsidise self-funding clients in HOPs and CCCs and so it had been proposed that the full cost of these placements should be passed on to these residents.

The change in rates for the remainder of 2020-21 had been listed in detail within the report.

As this would mean an increase in the fee of between 12.5% and 28.0%, it was intended to phase the change in. Details of how Derbyshire County Council would do this had been outlined in the report.

The full rate would apply to the following self-funding clients:-

- All new permanent residents from 1 September 2020
- All new respite clients from 1 September 2020
- All new residents who were admitted after 1 September 2020 as non-self-funders who subsequently become self-funders

These charges would be uplifted in future years based on the actual unit cost at the end of December in the previous financial year with a CPI inflation increase.

RESOLVED to approve increasing the rates for self-funders at Homes for Older People and Community Care Centres to the full cost rate with effect from 1 September 2020, with preserved rights for all current and transitional clients.