

**COVID-19 RESILIENCE FUNDING TO SUPPORT INDEPENDENT SECTOR PROVIDERS OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

*To:* **Adults Committee**

*Meeting Date:* **10 September 2020**

*From:* **Executive Director for People and Communities**

*Electoral division(s):* **All**

*Forward Plan ref:* **N/A**                      *Key decision:* **No**

*Purpose:* **To provide Adults Committee with an update on the urgent decision taken under emergency powers by the Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council to allocate the discretionary element of the Infection Control Grant.**

*Recommendation:* **Adults Committee are recommended to:**

**Note the decision made under emergency powers by the Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council in consultation with the Chairwoman of the Adults Committee, to allocate the Infection Control Grant provided by central government**

<b><i>Officer contact:</i></b>		<b><i>Member contacts:</i></b>	
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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The pandemic has had a huge impact on the health and social care system, including independent sector providers. Whilst social distancing protocols are starting to have a positive impact on the overall population, independent sector providers are working with health and social care to support people most at risk.
- 1.2 Adherence to infection control guidance put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic has had significant cost implications on service delivery across adult social care. On the 14th May 2020, the Government announced £600m of one off funding to support infection control across adult social care providers. This equated to £6,146,908 in Cambridgeshire. The primary purpose of this fund is to support adult social care providers to reduce the rate of COVID-19 transmission in and between care homes and support wider workforce resilience.
- 1.3 Central Government specified the fund be allocated in accordance with guidance issued:
- 75% of the funding was allocated to both residential and nursing care home providers, with each home receiving an amount per CQC registered beds. This equated to £991 per bed in Cambridgeshire.
  - The local authority was given discretion to allocate 25% of the funding to care homes or providers operating within the wider market. To date, the local authority has been consulting with providers on the most effective use of this money to ensure any approach taken maximises the benefits of the funding. The outcome of this has been detailed in paragraph 2.1 below.
- 1.4 Use of the funding by providers needs to comply with clear guidance outlined by central government, and all local authorities were given a directive to passport the funding through to services quickly to support the sustainability of the sector. Central government is releasing the funding in two tranches. The first tranche of the 75% allocated to care homes has been distributed to date, and this will be closely followed by the second tranche.

## **2. MAIN ISSUES**

- 2.1 Following consultation with local providers, a decision has been made under emergency powers by the Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council to allocate the remaining 25% of the fund, equating to £1,536,727, to providers commissioned by the County Council to deliver 'homecare' type services in the following ways:
- Domiciliary Care: Funding allocated based on number of hours delivered
  - Extra Care: Funding allocated based on number of hours delivered based on a return from providers
  - Supported Living: Funding allocated based on number of hours delivered based on a return from providers

- Direct Payments: A fund based on number of service users and average number of hours has been allocated to draw upon in the event PPE is required

2.3 To ensure adherence to state aid regulations, as well as conditions of the grant funding, all providers will be required to review and disclose any state aid implications and confirm adherence to the grant conditions prior to the award of allocated funds.

2.4 The approach outlined above aims to distribute funding available in a fair and equitable way ensuring that wherever possible the level of funding given to each commissioned provider reflects the level of complexity each service is managing, as this will ultimately have an impact on the cost of adhering to infection control guidance.

### **3. ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

#### **3.1 A good quality of life for everyone**

There is no significant implications

#### **3.2 Thriving places for people to live**

There is no significant implications

#### **3.3 The best start for Cambridgeshire's children**

There is no significant implications

#### **3.4 Net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2050**

There is no significant implications

### **4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

#### **4.1 Resource Implications**

- Grant Funding has been awarded by central government so will come at no additional cost to the Council

#### **4.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications**

- The Grant carries with it a number of conditions and could have implications under state aid regulations. An outline of how this is being managed is within paragraph 2.3

#### **4.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications**

Covered in paragraph 2.3

#### **4.4 Equality and Diversity Implications**

There is no significant implications

#### 4.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

- Due to the urgent nature of this resilience payment this decision has been taken following consultation with the Section 151 Officer, Executive Director of People and Communities, the Chair of Adults Committee, the Leader of the Council and other Committee Chairs. We have also engaged with the market.

#### 4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

There is no significant implications

#### 4.7 Public Health Implications

There is no significant implications

Implications	Officer Clearance
Have the resource implications been cleared by Finance?	Yes Name of Financial Officer: <b>Stephen Howarth</b>
Have the procurement/contractual/ Council Contract Procedure Rules implications been cleared by the LGSS Head of Procurement?	Yes Name of Officer: <b>Jeandre Hunter</b>
Has the impact on statutory, legal and risk implications been cleared by the Council's Monitoring Officer or LGSS Law?	Yes Name of Legal Officer: <b>Fiona McMillan</b>
Have the equality and diversity implications been cleared by your Service Contact?	Yes Name of Officer: <b>Will Patten</b>
Have any engagement and communication implications been cleared by Communications?	Yes Name of Officer: <b>Tony Darnell</b>
Have any localism and Local Member involvement issues been cleared by your Service Contact?	Yes Name of Officer: <b>Will Patten</b>
Have any Public Health implications been cleared by Public Health	Yes Name of Officer: <b>Emily Smith</b>

Source Documents	Location
None	