

STOCKPORT COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET– SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: ANNUAL RESIDENTIAL/NURSING, HOME CARE AND OTHER CARE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FEE SETTING 2022/2023

Report to Cabinet

Date: 15 March 2022

Report of: (a) Cabinet Member for Adult Care & Health

Key Decision: (b) Y

Forward Plan ☒ General Exception ☐ Special Urgency ☐ (Mark with a Y if applicable)

Summary:

This report outlines the commissioning proposals and 2022/23 fee setting for the most significant areas of externally commissioned service provision for adults with care needs: Care Homes in Stockport; Home Support to enable people to live in their homes for longer; Day Care Services and Learning Disability Services. The main points for consideration in this report are:

- Recognition of the impact on the care sector in 2021/22 and financial risks and challenges into 2022/23.
- Acknowledge challenges on workforce recruitment and retention, impact of National Insurance increase, current levels of inflation, uplifts to NLW / RLW, impact on occupancy levels from outbreaks of infection within care homes.
- Uncertainty about further grant funding to support the care sector into 2022/23. Acknowledging the significant grant funding the Council has provided to the local care sector over the last two years.
- Investment within fee setting paper of £6.323m illustrates the continued priority to support Adult Social Care providers and support market sustainability.

Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member: (c)

I'm pleased to present again this report on the 2022/23 Fee setting for Care Homes; Home Support; Day Support and Learning Disability Services. The provision of care to the people of Stockport represents one of the most important responsibilities the Council has and the financial sustainability and the quality of this provision is a key priority.

This work builds on previous year's approaches to achieve a realistic and fair level of funding for provision of care to our partners in the private, voluntary and independent sectors. I am mindful that we continue to face challenges in respect of Covid 19 and the levels of recurrent funding for Adult Social Care Service but pleased the Council is able to provide fee increases to our range of partners in the care sector.

Significantly, this year the process of fee setting will be able to take account of the Real Living Wage. The Council agreed at the 2022/23 Budget Council meeting held on the 24th February 2022 to accelerate its ambition to becoming a Real Living Wage (RLW) employer. What this means is for services which have National Living Wage (NLW) as a basis for cost of care modelling, this accelerated ambition to Real Living Wage creates an opportunity to bring

forward the additional investment proposals as soon as is possible, to early within the new financial year.

Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member: (d)

Cabinet are asked to endorse and agree the approach set out in this paper; and recommend that the Council approve the proposed uplift at the meeting on 3 March 2022.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(e)**

Adult Social Care & Health

Background Papers (if report for publication): **(f)**

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

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'Urgent Business': (g)

Yes/ No (Please circle)

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/ Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.
