**Freedom of Information Request – 22/05/2023**

Please find the following request for information under the Freedom of Information Act:

*Please Note*

* *The format below has been drafted to ensure* ***all*** *authorities can provide a response in respect of their care home fees for older person care.*
* *This Freedom of Information request seeks data that the local authority may also be supplying through Annex A of the Market Sustainability and Improvement (MSIF) submission in May 2023.*

Q1) Please provide your 2023 to 2024 **weekly base** fee rates for the following care types along with a copy of your fee uplift letter sent to care providers at the time the uplift was applied:

1. Nursing (Excl. FNC)
2. Nursing with Dementia (Excl. FNC)
3. Residential (without nursing)
4. Residential (without nursing) with Dementia

Note: If you do not operate a base fee, please provide the fee schedule you use (i.e. a banding or range of fees). If no fee schedule is used, please provide the average fee proposed during this period for each care type. Where you have not yet reported a 2023-2024 fee uplift, please outline your timeline and process for doing so.

See embedded document below which is the fee uplift letter sent to providers and which sets out the fee uplift applied to base rates in Leicester. The letter includes a table of the weekly base fees (note – actual fees paid can be a combination of the weekly base fee (banding) and an additional needs allowance payment where additional support is provided).

 

Q2) Please provide your **average weekly** fee rate (being the average weekly fee paid during the period 1st April 2022 to March 31st 2023 ) for the following care types:

1. Nursing (Excl. FNC) Older persons = £837, WAA = £845
2. Nursing with Dementia (Excl. FNC) – see response to part A which are the ‘blended rates’.
3. Residential (without nursing) Older persons = £776, WAA = £1,451
4. Residential (without nursing) with Dementia – see response to part C which are the ‘blended rates’.

Note: if you are unable to split Dementia from care without Dementia, please provide a blended Residential and a blended Nursing rate. This calculation should be the same as the MSIF report submitted in May 2023.

Q3) Please provide your **provisional average weekly** fee rate (calculated consistently with the rate in the question above) for the period 2023-2024 for the following care types:

1. Nursing (Excl. FNC) Older persons = £1,034, WAA = £1,038
2. Nursing with Dementia (Excl. FNC) – see response to part A which are the ‘blended rates’.
3. Residential (without nursing) Older persons = £878, WAA = £1,637
4. Residential (without nursing) with Dementia – see response to part C which are the ‘blended rates’.

Note: if you are unable to split Dementia from care without Dementia, please provide a blended Residential and a blended Nursing rate. This calculation should be the same as the MSIF report submitted in May 2023.

Q4) Please confirm if your authority requires or provisions for care providers to pay care staff a rate higher than the National Living Wage and outline the support on offer to do so.

Care providers are encouraged to pay care staff the real living wage but are not mandated to do so. Within the Council’s residential and nursing banded fee rates, wage rates are as a minimum at the appropriate NLW rate, with many roles above the NLW rate.

There does not appear to be a Q5 in this template to respond to?

Q6) Based on your local authority calculation of the Fair Cost of Care submitted in March 2023 to the DHSC, please confirm the rates your authority deems applicable for the period 2023 to 2024 for:

1. Nursing (Excl. FNC)
2. Nursing Enhanced (Excl. FNC)
3. Residential (without nursing)
4. Residential Enhanced with Dementia

The document submitted to DHSC in March 2023 was the Market Sustainability Plan. This included a section on anticipated fee rates for 2023/24. This submission was published – see the following link: <https://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council/policies-plans-and-strategies/social-care-and-education/market-sustainability-plans-for-residential-and-nursing-care-65-and-home-care-18-2023/>.

Note the anticipated fee rates were aligned to our base fee (i.e. banded rates). For actual rates being paid – see response to Q3 above – actual rates paid include the banded element + any additional needs allowances reflecting actual care provided.

Q7) Please share a copy of the Market Sustainability Improvement Fund Initial Metric Reporting Template (May 2023) submitted to the DHSC as stated in the following guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/market-sustainability-and-improvement-fund-2023-to-2024#full-publication-update-history>

We have not provided the reporting template as some of the data contained within that document is already included within other questions within this FOIA.

For clarity, within the MSIF Metric Reporting Template submitted to DHSC in May 23, for the 3 reporting areas:

**Fee Rates:**

The specific fee information pertaining to residential/nursing care provision for 2022/23 and 2023/24 has already been reproduced above in response to Q2 and Q3 of this FOIA – average fee rates.

**Waiting Times:**

The Council provided an alternative metric value in the form of number of people waiting for an assessment or waiting for care and support or a direct payment to begin following a completed assessment = 986.

**Workforce:**

The response covered workforce recruitment & retention metrics across commissioned provision in CQC registered services.

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| Q | **Metric Description** | **Data Item** |
| 1 | Total number of recruits in care providers in the authority area in April 2023. | 317.00 |
| 2 | Total number of staff leaving a job with a care provider in the authority area in April 2023. | 146.00 |
| 3a | Total number of providers who provided the information to Q1.  | 133.00 |
| 3b | Total number of providers who provided the information to Q2. | 133.00 |
| 4 | Total number of providers eligible to provide the information. | 139.00 |

Q8) For the period 1*st* April 2022 to 31*st* March 2023, please provide the number of **individual residents**, where their contracts for the provision of Older Person Services for both residential care and nursing care were either terminated by the care provider, handed back by the care provider, or were renegotiated due to the threat or notice of termination/handing back was made by the care provider.  You should provide the number of residents this applies to and the number of care providers.

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| **Number of Care homes** | **Residents Impacted** |
| 5 | 101 |