

Surrey County Council
Adult Social Care
Fairmount House
Bull Hill
Leatherhead
Surrey
KT22 7AH
asc.covid19@surreycc.gov.uk

Martin Green
Chief Executive
Care England
40 Artillery Lane
London E1 7LS

12 February 2021

RE: YOUR LETTER DATED 4TH FEBRUARY 2021

Dear Martin

Thank you for your letter to Simon White dated 4th February which Simon has asked me to respond to on his behalf.

We agree with Care England on the importance of care providers working collaboratively with local authorities and Surrey County Council (SCC) is proud of the way in which it has been able to work collaboratively with its providers, communities, and other partners. This has included working very closely with Surrey Care Association, throughout the pandemic, which has enabled us to tailor our response. We have been able to focus on issues of particular significance to Surrey and have ensured the sector has received and continues to receive the support it has needed.

In answer to your specific questions:

Through a combination of goodwill payments, advance payments, block payments, maintaining contract payments at pre pandemic levels for the period of the first wave, and continued payments to day services who have closed but developed alternative ways to support people SCC has provided over £10 million in financial support directly to providers. We continue to support day services that are closed and providing alternative means of support and we continue to offer financial support on a case by case basis where providers are encountering specific challenges.

SCC has also invested significant sums of money in PPE ensuring that the sector has had free access to PPE throughout the pandemic ensuring a smooth transition to the national portal arrangements for the provision of PPE.

The care sector in Surrey has also benefited from around £42 million through the money SCC has distributed from the two rounds of the Infection Control Fund, Lateral Flow Testing funds and most recently the Workforce Fund.

Regarding occupancy, by working collaboratively with Surrey Care Association (SCA) and our provider forums we have ensured that providers have received referrals from SCC and the NHS where occupancy has been a concern. This approach, alongside the financial

support set out earlier, has proved effective in maintaining stability within the local market. It is important that you note the context for Surrey is that that around 80% of care and nursing home capacity across the county is focused on the self-funders.

Fee levels will be increased by 2% for 2021/2022 where current rates are at or below our guide rates (OP services) and where providers have engaged with previous cost of care exercises (LD/PD/MH). This has been discussed with SCA as a part of our ongoing collaboration with them and takes account of a wider programme of strategic recommissioning work that will be delivered during 2021/2022. SCA provider forums and other specific market engagement activity we are undertaking has and will continue to inform our strategic commission approach.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Lillistone
Assistant Director for Commissioning
Adult Social Care, Surrey County Council