

Jozsef Gecsei

Subject: FW: Letter from Professor Martin Green

Importance: High

From: Cowley, Stuart <S.Cowley@wigan.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 March 2021 15:32

To: Jozsef Gecsei <JGecsei@careengland.org.uk>

Subject: Letter from Professor Martin Green

Importance: High

Dear Professor Martin Green,

Thank you for your recent letter dated 4th February.

We are proud of the response of our local care market to the challenges of the last 12 months and remain committed to working in partnership with provider partners, building on the positive and trusted relationships we have developed in Wigan, to ensure the continued sustainability of our local care market underpinned by a shared commitment to residents, families and social care workforce.

We have introduced a range of support measures to help ensure the operational and financial resilience of local providers in response to the impact of COVID-19, informed by regular discussion and engagement. This includes:

- Reimbursement of provider costs incurred as a result of COVID-19 and other financial support;
- Payment on the basis of planned or previous levels of support where identified as required;
- Direct purchase and supply of PPE prior to the introduction of the national portal;
- Local investment to support the protection of carer pay (prior to the launch of the infection control fund);
- Review of payment approaches;

This direct financial support has been complimented by a wider package of support, including the establishment and redeployment of council staff teams into care homes. Alongside investment of the Infection control and Rapid Testing Grants.

We continue to actively review and develop our local support offer as the pandemic continues and evolves.

With regards to investment in care fees, we are currently in the process of considering fee levels for 2021/22 informed by a comprehensive process of market engagement and consultation. This process is to continue through February and part of March.

Regards,

Stuart Cowley
Director Adult Social Care and Health
