



(Letter sent via email)
Professor Martin Green
Chief Executive
Care England

People Strategy & Commissioning
People Directorate
Saltisford Office Park
Ansell Way
Warwick
CV34 4UL

10th January 2022

Your Reference: CE_MG_121121_392

Dear Professor Green,

Thank you for your letter dated 12th November addressed to Nigel Minns which has been passed to me to respond. Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in responding which is due to the ongoing pressures we are facing in responding to the challenges in our local social care market combined with an administrative oversight.

Fair Price for Care

Warwickshire County Council operates a framework contract for care homes, fees for older people care homes were negotiated individually with each service provider at the time of contract award and have been uplifted annually in line with inflation. Placement fees for younger adults within care homes are agreed following a needs-based assessment for each individual. My team works closely with our commissioned providers to support the ongoing viability of their services and this includes conducting fee reviews with providers experiencing significant financial challenges.

As you will be aware, The Council will be required to undertake a cost of care exercise during 2022 as a requirement of the Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund conditions, we will be beginning to plan this activity over the coming weeks once more information and guidance is received from DHSC.

2022-23 Care Home Fees

The Council is currently in the process of developing proposals for the annual inflationary award for social care contract fee rates for 2022/23. This process commenced in September 2021 and involves assessing cost pressures and inflation as well as analysing local and national market conditions in the sector. As part of this process, we have engaged with our local care providers and gathered feedback on cost pressures and risks to business viability; this feedback is being considered as a key element of the decision-making process.

Final decisions on the inflationary uplift for social care contracts for 2022-23 will be agreed by the end of January, we are currently in discussions with Clinical Commissioning Group colleagues to agree the options for the jointly commissioned care home contract. The

proposed options will be presented to our senior leadership team at the end of January and our providers will be informed of the decisions during February.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BMatthewson', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Bronwyn Matthewson
Market Manager
People Strategy & Commissioning
Warwickshire County Council