

Integrated Services for Older People

London Borough of Bexley
Civic Offices
2 Watling Street
Bexleyheath
Kent
DA6 7AT
www.bexley.gov.uk



m/r 10686628

Direct Dial

0203 045 4134

y/r

Date

26 October 2021

laura.williams@bexley.gov.uk

The person dealing with this matter is: Laura Williams

Mr Richard Ayres
Care England
Care England
40 Artillery Lane
London
E1 7LS

Dear Mr Ayres

Thank you for your request for information received on 17 September 2021 concerning:

Please find below questions relating to Residential and Nursing Care Home Fees for people over the age of 65:

London Borough of Bexley (Bexley Council) do not operate on set fee rates. Each year, any uplifts are negotiated with individual providers, meaning that all fee rates are individual to the home. We also have several homes that cater to a “private” market, and therefore will not accept care home fee rates offered by the Council.

We also negotiate new placements based on assessed care needs if necessary, and place in other local authorities if needed / requested. Therefore, Average fee rates based on Bexley care homes are shown below.

What is your 2021/22 Weekly Nursing Fee Rate (Excluding FNC) - Average = £718.41

What is your 2021/22 Weekly Nursing Dementia Fee Rate (Excluding FNC) - Average = £858.50

What is your 2021/22 Weekly Residential Fee Rate - Average = £606.21

What is your 2021/22 Weekly Residential Dementia Fee Rate – Average = £670.81

Please state the annual uplift applied to the above rates in 2020/21. If no set percentage was applied, please provide the average percentage applied to each care type.

An average annual uplift of 1% was applied to care homes financially supported in April 2021.

This is within the context that last year, an uplift of 4.2% +an additional 1% (until November 2020 was applied in April 2020.

Some local care providers during the last 12 months 20/21 had already requested additional % increase in their individual rates based on the level/complexity of care required to support our residents.

Please provide a link to your website where these rates are published. If the rates are not published, please provide a link to any decision papers outlining how any uplift decisions were determined for the periods 2021/22

This year's rates were not published on the website, we are working to ensure this takes place for rates 22/23.

Please provide a copy of the letter or communication sent to providers explaining the uplift for 2021/22

Due to the individual nature and not a blanket approach to considering Bexley Care home fee rates to support our residents this is Commercially sensitive, some care home providers were met in person, teams and individual conversations as Bexley has a mixture of block and spot commissioned placements. Individual clients need has continued to rise % rates from the original set over the last 12 months.

General information within the letters/correspondence sent to

We have adopted this position to ensure that we can continue to maximise the use of the resources available, maintain effective levels of service for our population and respond to the significant additional demand for services arising from the age and lifestyle of the population more generally.

Due to the financial challenges that Covid has presented for the Council and the continued impact on us in the medium term.

The Council has reviewed its financial position and has taken into consideration the 4.91% uplift allocated in 20/21, the temporary 1% paid to providers up to November 2020, which have ensured we have remained competitive against our neighbouring boroughs care home fee rates as well as our own financial position.

*In explicit terms this means that your organisation will receive the following uplift for the financial year
21/22*

Where your authority sets rates on an individual needs basis or negotiates inflation annually with provides on an ad-hoc basis, please provide a link to, or information pertaining to the approach, and what financial allocations are provisioned for such purposes.

At the time of placement, a care home fee rate can be set based on an individuals assessed care needs; however, this is in a minority of cases. The criteria for this is holistic, as we do not believe in diagnosis-led approaches to care

This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the information requested is held by the London Borough of Bexley. I have enclosed copies of the information that is being released to you.

If you are considering making use of this information, please consider whether the Reuse of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005 apply. Details of these regulations are available on Bexley Council's website at this address, <http://www.bexley.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2361>

If you have any questions, please contact me on 0203 045 4134 or laura.williams@bexley.gov.uk.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

Complaint and Freedom of Information Officer
London Borough of Bexley
Civic Offices
2 Watling Street
Bexleyheath
Kent
DA6 7AT

Or by email to foi@bexley.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'L Williams', is placed over a light grey, textured rectangular background.

Laura Williams
Head of Integrated Commissioning for Older People