

Written Responses to Public Questions

Adult Health and Social Care Policy Committee

8th November 2023

1 question was submitted to the Adult Health and Social Care Policy Committee for a written response. The question and response provided are as follows:

Question:

I would like to ask the Council how it looks at setting Care Home fees? What evidence is used? Does the need of the individual requiring care or financial situation of the Council take priority?

Response:

The Council's fee setting process and recommendations for 2023/24 are set out in the AHSC Policy Committee Report: [Market Sustainability: Adult Social Care Fee Rates 2023/24](#) (16th March 2023).

A report on the proposed fee rates for 2024/25 is due to be presented at ASHC Policy Committee in December 2023.

The setting of Care Homes fees is considered within the Council's compliance with statutory duties to maintain a sustainable market, as set out in the Care Act 2014.

The Council currently has a set standard rate for Care Homes, and when proposing fee rates, the Council considers evidence from the market, including consultation with providers (where appropriate).

For non-standard provision, fee rates are largely negotiated at the time of placement with the provider.

In all placements, the Council prioritises personalised care and support that meets the individual needs of the person.

Proposed changes to rates also take into account the difference between the wage levels calculated in the fee rate for the previous year, and any changes to the National Living Wage for the staffing element of the fee rate increase, and the Consumer Price Index (as at September's CPI – the month used by DWP for calculating pension contributions) for non-staffing costs.

The Council is continuing to work with the residential care market to ensure we maintain a quality and sustainable market. Our plans are set out in the AHSC Policy

Committee Report: [Transforming Care Homes for Citizens of Sheffield](#), [Appendix 2 - Care Home Transformation High Level Plan](#) (8th February 2023)