

# WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## RECORD OF OFFICER EXECUTIVE DECISION

Item	Outcome
<b>Date Of Decision</b>	28 March 2022
<b>Decision Maker</b>	Paula Furnival, Strategic Director, People
<b>Brief Description Of Decision</b>	<p>To record annual fee review decisions for Adult Social Care services (home care and residential settings) following engagement and consultation with all providers.</p> <p>Funding for the uplifts has been built into the 2022/23 revenue budget as approved by Council in February 2022.  <b>The service uplifts approved are as follows:</b></p> <p><b>Domiciliary care</b>            Fee increase based on raising the fee level to accommodate a £13.00 hour care worker cost. An across county 8% enhancement to ensure a supply of services for evenings/weekends. Increase in mileage rate and the paid travel time across Worcestershire’s rural locations.            Estimated cost <b>Sub-total:5.829 million</b></p> <p><b>Extra Care</b>            Fee increase based on funding a general increase in line with (November RPI) inflation i.e. 3.9% plus a further % to be used specifically for the retention of frontline staff totalling 4.65%.            Estimated cost <b>Sub-total: 0.181 million</b></p> <p><b>Supported Living</b>            Fee increase based on applying 6.6% (or NLW uplift) to 75% of the hourly rate/Tier prices.            Estimated cost <b>Sub-total:1.125 million</b></p> <p><b>Shared Lives</b>            Fee increase based on funding a 3.9% increase to all care packages.            Estimated cost <b>Sub-total:0.07 million</b></p> <p><b>Day services</b>            Fee increase based on individual review following request. Increase based on past experience of fee uplift requests ahead of recommissioning (new contracts due to be operational from 1st October 2022).            Estimated cost <b>Sub-total:0.025 million</b></p>

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	<p><b>Residential care / nursing care</b>            Fee increase based on applying uplifts of 1.0% for residential care and 0% for nursing care across all service groups PLUS the allowance for high cost 1:1 placements and the recommended uplift of 0.5% for utilities and food            Estimated cost <b>Sub-total:1.624 million</b></p> <p><b>Direct payments</b>            Fee increase based on increasinh in line with November RPI (3.9%) with social work support.            Estimated cost <b>Sub-total:0.715 million</b></p> <p><b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS OF ABOVE UPLIFTS 9.569 million</b></p>
<p><b>Reason(s) For Decision</b></p>	<p>Annually, Worcestershire County Council reviews fees in line with contract, based on an assessment of care need, market forces and the Councils ability to pay.</p> <p>The Council still has the ability to review fees on a case-by-case basis where required, where care needs change.</p>
<p><b>Alternative Options Considered And Rejected</b></p>	<p>Council values the care provided to our residents buy providers. Current emphasis nationally, regionally and locally is around the increased demand and requirement for care in the home rather than in residential settings, based on client choice and the improved outcomes of maintaining supported independent living.</p> <p>The home care sector has been in crisis for much of 2021/22 and in near collapse in some parts of the UK (as nationally reported). In Worcestershire, our home care fees were significantly below national average and below neighbouring counties with many providers unable to maintain existing or accept new care packages resulting in large/lengthy waiting lists and/or care package collapse which further impacted the county's health and social care provision at a time when the NHS is struggling to recover delayed health interventions as a result of the pandemic.</p> <p>Home care services have therefore been the main focus for fee uplifts for 2022/3, with proposals bringing fee levels close to those in neighbouring counties.</p> <p>By not taking this decision, Worcestershire Health and Care system would have become severely compromised.</p>
<p><b>Joint Equality, Public Health, Data Protection and Sustainability Impact Assessments carried out</b></p>	<p>Give details of any Joint Equality, Public Health, Data Protection and Sustainability Impact Assessments.</p> <p>Select any of the following which are appropriate:</p> <p>A. The JIA screening did not identify any potential considerations requiring further assessment during implementation – these uplifts will enable continued equal access to an existing service that has undergone full assessment</p>

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<b>Any Conflict of Interest declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted</b>	None known or identified
<b>Reference</b>	02/2022

October 2020  
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