

PWYLLGOR CYLLID FINANCE COMMITTEE

DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: DATE OF MEETING:	29 September 2020
TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: TITLE OF REPORT:	Support for Adult Social Care Providers
CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: LEAD DIRECTOR:	Huw Thomas, Director of Finance
SWYDDOG ADRODD: REPORTING OFFICER:	Simon Shelton, Healthcare Contracts and Continuing Healthcare (CHC) Programme Lead Sian Hurley, Head of Healthcare Contracting Karen Barlow, Assistant Finance Business Partner

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas)

Purpose of the Report (select as appropriate)

Ar Gyfer Trafodaeth/For Discussion

ADRODDIAD SCAA SBAR REPORT

Sefyllfa / Situation

This paper is intended to inform the Finance Committee regarding the disbursement of the “Support for Adult Social Care Providers Hardship Fund”, following Welsh Government (WG) Guidance and funding made available to providers of Domiciliary, Residential and Continuing Healthcare for all:

- Local Health Board (LHB) commissioned care.
- LHB and Local Authority (LA) joint packages of care.
- Funded Nursing Care (FNC).

The paper outlines the process of the allocation regarding the release of funds and details the sums to be made available from Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDdUHB) to the providers of the aforementioned services.

Cefndir / Background

WG has provided more than £60 million to LAs during the period April to September 2020 to support adult social care providers to respond to COVID-19. The guidance issued to LAs set out how this funding was to be used to address the reasonable, additional costs resulting directly from the pandemic that providers of adult social care were experiencing. This funding is primarily focused on in-house and LA commissioned social care and as such, did not provide comprehensive provision for the additional costs experienced by providers delivering nursing care, funded nursing care or continuing healthcare.

WG has confirmed an allocation of £22.4 million to directly support LHB commissioned care, and LHB and LA joint packages of care, across domiciliary care and residential care. This form of funding for LHB commissioned care will complement the funding for LA commissioned social care provided through the adult social care element of the “Local Government Hardship Fund”. In most cases, it will apply from 1 April to 30 September 2020 to cater for the additional costs which providers would have incurred since that time and are still incurring. The funding will be

allocated to HBs on a formula basis in order to support providers in their response to COVID-19.

Where providers have been in receipt of funding from LAs, the allocation now available to the HB in this second tranche of funding will be applied from 1 July to 30 September 2020.

This is a distinct and time-limited scheme to provide financial support for LHB commissioned care, and care jointly commissioned with LAs, as we navigate and respond to COVID-19; it is not permanent uplift funding. There is a separate report concerning CHC uplifts and this separate funding stream is not to be conflated with the “Annual CHC Fee Uplifts” report the Finance Committee will receive.

It is anticipated that all providers across Wales will have encountered some level of additional costs as a consequence of COVID-19 and that these will continue until at least September 2020. This increase in provider costs will place additional financial pressure on healthcare commissioning costs for HBs and on commissioning costs for joint packages of care for HBs and LAs.

Funding

The funding provides for adult care providers to receive a contribution towards their additional COVID-19 costs. This is via a standard temporary flat rate uplift for LHB commissioned adult care, and jointly commissioned care with LAs, across Wales. The temporary uplifts are based on current intelligence on local approaches to additional funding and costs in the sector advised by provider organisations and HBs, collated by the National Director, Complex Care. The standard uplifts for solely LA commissioned social care are set out in the corresponding funding scheme guidance issued to LAs. The standard uplifts applicable for LHB commissioned care and jointly commissioned care are:

- £75 per week per resident temporary fee uplift for LHB commissioned residential care (CHC) between 1 April and 30 September 2020.
- £25 per week per resident temporary fee uplift for LHB commissioned nursing care (FNC) between 1 April and 30 September 2020.
- £1 per hour temporary fee uplift for LHB commissioned domiciliary care and for LHB CHC commissioned in the community between 1 April and 30 September 2020.
- £75 per week per client temporary fee uplift for LHB and LA jointly commissioned care from 1 July to 30 September 2020 (this shorter period is to take account of the contribution towards the costs in jointly commissioned care LAs have previously been able to provide).

Application / Process

The guidance from WG is that HBs and LAs should note that the funding for this temporary national fee uplift for jointly commissioned care is included in the £22.4 million allocation. As such, to deliver this particular uplift, funding will need to follow the arrangements agreed locally to commission joint packages of care. Therefore, if HBs lead locally on commissioning that care for themselves and their LAs, they should use this funding to cover that uplift in their commissioning. Alternatively, if a LA leads locally on commissioning joint care for itself and its

HB, then the HB will need to passport to the LA the funding required to include this uplift in the care it commissions.

Where FNC is paid via LAs on the basis of a locally agreed arrangement, the funding which HBs are receiving for a FNC temporary fee uplift will also need to follow those arrangements in a similar manner.

In all these joint commissioning arrangements, the secondary commissioner should provide to the lead commissioner, as soon as it is agreed, its relevant share of the funding required for the appropriate temporary national fee uplift applicable to the joint care being commissioned. This is in order to minimise any adverse cash flow issues on the lead commissioner and to enable funding to be provided to care providers without delay.

Market Stability

Voids in residential care and unpredictable costs continue to be a challenge across the adult social care sector as a whole. HBs are expected to contribute resources to address voids in care homes, which have an element of LHB commissioned care, in discussion with the relevant LA.

LAs must ensure that WG resource is used only for eligible voids that would constitute an additional cost to them in line with their own budget planning and market stability provisions. Guidance has been provided as follows:

“Local authorities are responsible for the market stability of the social care sector within their geographic boundaries. Consequently a geographic / administrative approach will be taken to voids and market stability matters within the geographic boundaries of local authorities, irrespective of commissioning routes. In administering support in relation to voids and other unpredictable market stability costs which may arise, local authorities should act to support key provision in their local market in a manner which is consistent with their strategy for market development and managing adjustments to the pattern of care needed to reflect changing population need.”

HBs are asked to act similarly for this period, i.e. July to September 2020, drawing on their own planned budgets and utilising additional WG resource to meet additional costs.

The emphasis is on local discretion and partnership working, with WG, LAs and HBs contributing resources where available to support important care provision.

Using the temporary national fee uplift approach set out above, it is anticipated that the HB will be utilising circa £1.692m of the £2.890m allocation with the expectation of utilising the remaining resource to fund voids throughout the year.

County	Total Funding Requirement
Carmarthenshire	£719,675.29
Pembrokeshire	£615,855.01
Ceredigion	£356,044.46
Totals	£1,691,664.76
<i>Balance - Voids</i>	<i>£1,198,335.24</i>

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

The Finance Committee is asked to note the disbursement of the “Support for Adult Social Care Providers Hardship Fund” in line with Welsh Government Guidance.

Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau)

Objectives: (must be completed)

Committee ToR Reference: Cyfeirnod Cylch Gorchwyl y Pwyllgor:	4.1 To scrutinise and provide oversight of financial and revenue consequences of investment planning (both short term and in relation to longer term sustainability).
Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score:	Not Applicable
Safon(au) Gofal ac Iechyd: Health and Care Standard(s):	Governance, Leadership and Accountability 3. Effective Care 5. Timely Care All Health & Care Standards Apply
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	4. Improve the productivity and quality of our services using the principles of prudent health care and the opportunities to innovate and work with partners.
Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Statement	Improve efficiency and quality of services through collaboration with people, communities and partners Improve efficiency and quality of services through collaboration with people, communities and partners

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol:

Further Information:

Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	Contained within the report
Rhestr Termiau: Glossary of Terms:	Explanation of terms is included within the report
Partïon / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Pwyllgor Cyllid: Parties / Committees consulted prior to Finance Committee:	N/A

Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau)

Impact: (must be completed)

Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:	There will be no cost incurred by the HB associated with this funding.
Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:	The Quality and Patient Care aspect is the key reason for this paper. The risks associated with not providing the temporary payment is that providers may incur financial pressures.
Gweithlu: Workforce:	N/A
Risg: Risk:	N/A
Cyfreithiol: Legal:	N/A
Enw Da: Reputational:	N/A
Gyfrinachedd: Privacy:	N/A
Cydraddoldeb: Equality:	N/A