

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL
DECISION**

**DECISION OF: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE
AND HEALTH
WITH ADVICE FROM: DIRECTOR, PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
DIRECTORATE: PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES**



DECISION NO: PC03 (2020/21 SCHEME)

SUBJECT: COMPENSATORY PAYMENTS FOR SHARED LIVES CARERS
SUPPORTING ADULTS IN LONG TERM PLACEMENTS

KEY DECISION:

No.

REASON:

Financial implications not in excess of £500,000 and no significant impact on communities in more than one ward.

BACKGROUND:

One of the principles of long-term placements is that the Shared Lives carers get 4 weeks respite a year and that many of the service users access day support. These arrangements have been on hold since lockdown.

The delivery of respite and day support is still problematic due to the issue of service users having to move between households which means the shared lives carers will continue to not get a break.

DECISION:

To pay the Shared Lives carers of long-term placements a compensatory payment for 13 weeks from 1 April to 30th June of £45.48 per week in recognition of them working beyond their contractual duties and hours and having no respite from their caring duties.

REASONS:

Shared Lives carers who care for adults in long term placements have not had a break from their caring duties due to Covid-19 lockdown restrictions. Usually the service users in those long-term placements would access some form of day support or respite; enabling the Shared Lives carers to have a break. It would seem reasonable that the Shared Lives carers of long-term placements are offered an additional payment in recognition of the additional hours and duties they have worked and in the absence of any respite or day support. This would be in line with the additional payments being made in other authorities and those being paid to care homes.

Other Shared Lives schemes are offering the following:

- Shared Lives Bristol are £47 a week per placement. They are paying this for 13 weeks to end on 1st July.
- Shared Lives Portsmouth are currently paying £100 per week to each household with a service user, an additional £50 for a second and additional £25 for a third.
- Shared Lives Hertfordshire have put in place a temporary 10% increase on pay to support their carers with Long Term placements.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

In North Somerset, we have three bands for our placements;

Band 1: £362
Band 2: £465
Band 3: £620

Currently in long term placement we have:

Band 1 £362 x 19 service users = £6878.00 per week
Band 2 £465 x 11 service users = £5115.00 per week
Band 3 £620 x10 service users = £6200.00 per week

Total cost per week = £18,193.00 per week

Total service users = 40

£18,193.00 per week / 40 = £454.83 per average cost of placement per week.

= £45.48 at 10% of average cost of placement per week.

£45.48 X 40 placements = £1819.20 per week.

£1819.20 at 13 weeks (taking payments to 30 June) = £23647.00

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of the additional payments for the 13 weeks from 1 April to 30 June would be c. £23,647. Whilst it is anticipated that this should be funded from the un-ringfenced grants that the government has provided for councils for the Covid-19 response, there is a risk that the total amount of funding provided by government will not be sufficient to cover all the additional expenditure and losses of income that the council will face

LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

None.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

CONSULTATION

No consultation has been done with the Shared Lives carers as yet.

RISK MANAGEMENT

It is essential that we maintain Shared Lives payment as not to do so could result in service users needing alternative forms of care which could result in them needing residential care which is much more costly to the local authority.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? No.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Pressure on the Adults' Support and Safeguarding budget.

APPENDICES

None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

SIGNATORIES:

DECISION MAKER:



Signed:

Title: Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Date: 30.06.20

WITH ADVICE FROM:



Signed:

Title: Director, People and Communities

Date: 30.6.20

Footnote: Details of changes made and agreed by the decision taker since publication of the proposed (pre-signed) decision notice, if applicable: