

Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care  
Kevin Stewart MSP



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COSLA Health & Social Care Spokesperson  
Councillor Stuart Currie



To:  
Local Authority Chief Executives  
LJB Chief Officers  
Social Care Providers  
Trade Unions  
Cc: NHS Chief Executives

30 June 2021

## Financial Support for Adult Social Care Providers

Dear colleague,

We are writing to provide an update regarding the arrangements for financial support for adult social care providers, which form part of the financial support that the Scottish Government has agreed with COSLA to help the adult social care sector meet additional costs related to COVID-19. We recognise that there has been uncertainty on arrangements from 1 July 2021 and we would like to thank you for your support and patience while we considered the information, data and evidence available to us, to inform our decisions on support moving forward.

In our letter of 4 December 2020, we set out the arrangements for financial support from December 2020 to March 2021 and published [guidance](#) to support the implementation of this approach. We wrote again to Local Authorities and Integration Authorities in February to advise that the current arrangements would be extended to 30 June 2021.

The arrangements agreed by Scottish Ministers and COSLA Leaders from 1 July 2021 are;

- Additional costs relating to remobilisation and adhering to public health measures, will continue to be met in line with the Scottish Government guidance and will remain in place until 31 March 2022. This includes:

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additional staffing and non-staffing costs related to the pandemic, and additional costs for pandemic related administration required by care homes as set out in the annex of the guidance. This does not include continued funding for the restriction of staff movement policy.

- The Social Care Staff Support Fund will be extended to 30 September 2021.
- Claims for sustainability funding for PPE will continue to be permitted until at least September 2021. We will continue to review PPE arrangements.

Regarding under occupancy payments in Care homes:

- Under occupancy payments in care homes will be extended until 30 September 2021.
- The criteria set out in section 1 of the guidance will continue to apply.

Regarding non-delivery of care in non-residential settings:

- The national approach to non-delivery of care for non-residential services will continue until 30 September 2021 to allow a transition period for services to remobilise.
- The Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care wrote to HSCPs on 7 June strongly encouraging the reopening of day services in line with guidance.
- Commissioners and providers should work together to enable services to be fully re-started in line with guidance, which should include conversations to overcome systemic barriers.
- Every effort must be made to fully remobilise services. In the exceptional circumstances where it is not possible to reopen services, discussions should take place between the provider and the commissioners to determine if payments can be made.
- It is recognised that there may be instances where flexibility is necessary due to the individual nature and range of services and supports in place, where ongoing and sustained impact of the pandemic results in a reduction of service being delivered, payments can be made to support remobilisation.

We will continue to monitor costs and regularly review the Scottish Government guidance and the additional cost annex.

We recognise the challenges for both providers and commissioners alike in submitting and processing the necessary information to ensure these payments can be made. It is vital that providers and commissioners work together to ensure that the information is submitted and processed in a timely way to ensure sustainability and ensure adequate resources are made available. There is a robust process in place to ensure that public funds are spent appropriately and a requirement to ensure clear audit trails are in place to record how funding has been spent. Any money paid out through this mechanism should be used as intended and the open book process should continue.

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COVID-19 continues to affect all our daily lives including our workplaces, and we recognise the very challenging position that many employers and workers have been facing. We would again like to thank all of Scotland's dedicated social care and healthcare staff for their hard work and continuing efforts to remobilise services and support, and for ensuring safety remains a top priority at all times.

Yours sincerely



KEVIN STEWART  
Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care



Cllr Stuart Currie  
COSLA Spokesperson Health and Social Care

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