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COSLA Health & Social Care Spokesperson  
Councillor Stuart Currie



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

04 December 2020

## **Adult Social Care – Financial Support for Social Care Providers for COVID-19 from December 2020 to 31 March 2021**

Dear Colleagues,

We are writing today to provide a further update regarding the arrangements for financial support for the social care sector from December 2020 to March 2021. This follows agreement between Scottish Government and COSLA to help the social care sector with additional costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Scottish Government is committed to providing funding for the social care sector for additional COVID-19 expenditure that has been incurred, recognising the exceptional efforts made by all who work in the sector to support people and providers during this period, and the need to support sustainability of the sector.

As we said in our letter of 6 November 2020, transitional arrangements set out in August 2020 were reviewed and extended to the end of November, to allow work to happen with stakeholders to consider the evidence for a new arrangement.

A working group comprised of stakeholders from across the sector met six times to identify the issues, consider evidence, and develop proposals for COSLA Leaders and Scottish Ministers. The group focused on three main areas: overall aim of funding support for the sector during the pandemic; clarity around additional costs that may be met; and streamlining the mechanism of payments and ensuring consistency in approach across the country.

Guidance has been developed that sets out:

- The overall approach to financial support for social care providers relating to the COVID-19 pandemic from December 2020 to March 2021

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- The criteria that need to be met for financial support for care and support that cannot be delivered as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- The approach to payment for financial support for care and support that cannot be delivered as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Categories of additional costs that may be met, where not met by other funding sources or payments for care and support that cannot be delivered as a direct result of COVID-19
- Details of the approach to providing supporting evidence for costs
- Key principles for providers and commissioners relating to requesting and making payments

If any provider is concerned about their financial sustainability, this should be raised locally with the commissioning authority to ensure appropriate support can be provided.

It is key that these developments are communicated consistently to relevant parties. Please share the messages in this letter as relevant with your commissioned services and members.

Kind regards,



**Jeane Freeman**  
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport



**Cllr Stuart Currie**  
COSLA Health and Social Care Spokesperson

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