



HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S DECISION RECORD

Department:	Adult & Community Based Services
Division:	Adult Services
Date of Decision:	29.03.21
Officer Making Decision:	Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader, Chair of Adult & Community Based Services Committee and Monitoring Officer.
Subject / Description & Reason for Decision:	Implementation of a COVID Recovery Support Scheme for care providers to ensure ongoing sustainability of the local care market.

The scheme is made up of two elements:

- COVID Recovery Support Payment - a payment to care homes for older people and providers of home care / extra care for older people based on a percentage of their usual four weekly payment.
- Occupancy Support Scheme – an additional payment to care homes where occupancy has fallen by more than 5% as a result of COVID, which will guarantee income at an agreed level.

Payments for both elements of the scheme will be implemented from 29 March and initially agreed until the payment period ending 12 September 2021. There will be a review undertaken in July 2021 to determine whether either or both elements of the scheme should continue beyond this date.

The maximum costs of the scheme for the period 29 March – 12 September are as follows:

- COVID Recovery Support Payment £240k
- Occupancy Support Scheme £340k

Costs for the Occupancy Support Scheme will vary each month and are not expected to reach the maximum level stated.

Costs will be reviewed on a monthly basis, and actual costs will be reported to Finance & Policy Committee in August 2021.

ODR No. :

The COVID Recovery Support Scheme costs will be covered from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund as this support meets the criteria set by the Government for this specific grant.

The Occupancy Support Scheme will be funded from the £3.2m COVID grant for 2021/22, unless other funding sources can be identified. As reported to Finance and Policy Committee in the MTFS report this is one off grant funding and the Government expects this funding to be focused on Covid pressures impacting of adult social care, children's services, public health services, households waste services, shielding the clinically vulnerable, homelessness and rough sleeping, domestic abuse, managing excess deaths, support for re-opening this country and the additional costs associated with the local election in May 2021.

It was recommended that proposal to use of this grant would be reported to Finance and Policy.

However, it is considered essential to have the COVID Recovery Support Scheme in place from 29 March 2021 to ensure that the adult social care market is appropriately supported to manage the unprecedented pressures that have resulted from the COVID pandemic.

Other councils are adopting similar arrangements to support their adult social care markets.

Type of Decision:	Budget and Policy Framework Key Decision
Nature of Delegation Being Exercised:	Constitution Reference – CE15 – urgent decisions normally reserved to a Committee. The Managing Director (or in his/her absence the Director of Resources and Growth) may take a decision normally reserved to Full Council or a Committee where: (a) Failure to take the decision quickly would, or would be likely to, harm the interests of the Council and the public. (b) The decision is so urgent that it cannot wait until the next meeting of the Committee at which the decision would normally be taken.
Alternative Options Considered & Rejected:	None – support is required to manage ongoing financial pressures.

Any Declared
Register of Interest

No

Signatures for retained copy only

Managing Director – Denise McGuckin



Decision made in consultation with:

Leader of the Council – Cllr Shane Moore



Chair of Adult & Community Based Services
Committee – Cllr Sue Little



Chief Solicitor and Monitoring Officer –
Hayley Martin



Director of Resources and Development –
Chris Little



