

Birmingham City Council

Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date (24 January 2023)



Subject: Adult Social Care Reforms

Report of: John Williams, Director of Operational and Community Services, Adult Social Care

Report author: Andrew Marsh, Strategic Lead for Hospitals and Discharge to Assess, Head of Service (Operations and Partnerships)

1 Purpose

The Government introduced plans for Adult Social Care Reforms in 2021 including £5.4bn to fund the reforms. Implementation of the reforms was expected to commence in October 2023. The Chancellor during the Autumn Statement in November 2022 announced that the reforms would be delayed until 2025. The report will update the Committee on the actions taken to date and key next steps of implementing the Fair Cost of Care.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Note the work started by the Directorate
- 2.2 Note that the implementation of the charging reforms was delayed until October 2025 as announced in the Autumn Statement in 2022. This means the new £86,000 Cap on care costs will not be introduced until 2025
- 2.3 Note that the Fair Cost of Care element of the reforms is still being implemented in stages from October 2023. At which point self-funders entering a care home for the first time will be able to access the Local Authority fee rates. Self-funders already in a care home in October 2023 will have access to the Local Authority fee rates no later than 2025

3 Any Finance Implications

- 3.1 The allocation for implementation of the market sustainability and fair cost of care for the 2022/23 financial year was £3.78m. The allocations for 2023/24 and

2024/25 have not yet been confirmed and therefore no increases have been incorporated into the projections for those years

- 3.2 Due to the delayed implementation of the charging reforms the impact is subject to change

4 Any Legal Implications

- 4.1 Provisions in the Care Act 2014 (section 18(3)) will be brought fully into force enabling self-funders to ask their local authority to arrange their care in a care home for them so that they can benefit from lower rates
- 4.2 There will be a requirement to distribute the grant funding to the care market in line with the conditions of the grant
- 4.3 Due to the delayed implementation of the charging reforms, implications are subject to change

5 Any Equalities Implications

- 5.1 Self-funders will be able to ask their local authority to arrange their care in a care home for them so that they can benefit from lower rates
- 5.2 Due to the delayed implementation of the charging reforms, implications are subject to change

6 Appendices

- 6.1 Adult Social Care Reforms