Notice of an Executive decision under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

The Leader of the Council considered and determined the following matter, which is a key decision, 5 January 2022.

Uplift of Hourly Rate - Domiciliary Care Costing Model

That approval was given to an addition to the costing model used to calculate the domiciliary care hourly rate to include the increase to National Insurance Contributions from April 2022. In addition, the updated costing model referenced be used to uplift the hourly rate for existing domiciliary care framework contracts and for the new domiciliary care agreements that are to be procured for service delivery from 1 September 2022.

The Cabinet at their meeting on 21st May 2021, the use of a costing model in respect of the domiciliary care rate for new agreements was approved. However, in September 2021, the Government mandated an increase to National Insurance contributions of 1.25% from April 2022. Therefore, the costing model previously approved by Cabinet did not incorporate this change. It was recommended that the model incorporated increases to National Insurance contributions to ensure that the domiciliary care sector withstand the increased financial burden.

As the existing contract was extended, there was no provision for an additional extension. As a result, a new tender was required to be advertised by 10 January 2022 to enable evaluation, award and mobilisation within the required timescales. Approval was therefore sought as a matter of urgency in order that the decision can be implemented as soon as possible.

The Regulations require that 28 clear days' notice is given before a key decision is made. However, this was impracticable due the Government mandated National Insurance contributions.

Due to this, and in accordance with the Regulations, the Chair of the Health and Adults Social Care Scrutiny Board has been informed of this matter in writing.

30 December 2021

Tipton ■ Wednesbury ■ West Bromwich ■ Smethwick ■ Oldbury ■ Rowley Regis