

Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
Oxford
OX1 1ND

**To All Service Providers Contracting with
Oxfordshire County Council**

**Stephen Chandler
Corporate Director for Adult
Services & Housing**

17 June 2020

Dear Colleague

**COVID-19: Supporting Social Care Services to Maintain Capacity and Viability
(Adult Social Care) – Payment of Additional 10% for June 2020**

Thank you for the ongoing care and support that you are providing for Oxfordshire's residents, I know that you and your staff are working hard through challenging circumstances and remain impressed by the dedication shown. I am also sorry that I am only now able to write to you regarding further support in June, but we have been carefully reviewing the local and national position in responding to the COVID19 pandemic, including funding and support for services during this current period.

You will be aware that in my letters dated 15 April and 11 May 2020, I explained that the Government had provided funding to the Council to strengthen support arrangements for vulnerable people in Oxfordshire including those needing social care, and to support providers and provide assurance about service delivery during the COVID-19 period.

I am now able to let you know that following a further review of the local and national position, we have agreed to make a further 10% payment under the same arrangements as previously stated to our contracted providers, people with Direct Payments and people in receipt of Continuing Healthcare funding. This additional funding is to cover the period 1st to 30th June 2020, and the council is working hard to process this payment as soon as possible with the aim of the payments reaching your bank account on or before Friday 26 June 2020.

Alongside this I want to again confirm that

- a) we are retaining the Service Sustainability Fund to respond to exceptional circumstances including where a provider is experiencing issues with on-going financial viability and/or is deemed to be 'at risk' of failure.
I would again ask you to alert us to any significant financial issue or concern at an early date by using ascCOVID19@oxfordshire.gov.uk or by telephoning your usual contact in the Quality & Contracts Team. I can assure you that all communications will be dealt with in strictest confidence.
- b) Providers can continue to e-mail urgentppe@oxfordshire.gov.uk if you need to access emergency_PPE supplies. Please note that any supply of PPE is subject to recharge conditions details of which are available on the County Council's website.

- c) For all other matters that are COVID19 related please can I ask you to contact us during office hours using the ASCCovid19@oxfordshire.gov.uk email address mentioned above.
- d) For any matters that are COVID-19 related that occur outside of normal office hours please contact the Emergency Duty Team on the usual contact number or email address.

I can assure you that the Council will continue to monitor and respond to the current pandemic as it has done since the beginning of the outbreak, working alongside you, colleagues from Public Health, the Clinical Commissioning Group and our NHS providers.

I will contact you again should the position regarding financial support from July onwards change, but in the meantime I would again like to thank you and your staff for all the great work you are doing to support those most vulnerable and those affected by COVID-19 within Oxfordshire.

Should you have any further enquiries or need general support and advice outside of the above then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes



Stephen T Chandler
Corporate Director for Adult Services and Housing
Stephen.Chandler@Oxfordshire.gov.uk