

Dear Iain,

Fee Settlement 2019 / 2020

Thank you for the draft letter outlining your proposals for the fee settlement for the forthcoming financial year.

We appreciate the constraints that you have with respect to your budget and the governance of dealing with public money. Additionally we are grateful for your efforts in maximising the budget in support of funding care. This notwithstanding we do not agree that the uplifts proposed provide for the inflationary pressures that we are being subjected to.

We have also received your rationale for perceived staff costs and your cost of care model, your letter dated 17 January 2019 refers. Whereas we still await some clarification as previously requested we note that there are fundamental errors in your derivation of the percentage increase of the living wage. In this respect it appears that our inflation paper has not been understood. We will address this in a separate response to the above letter.

In order to move forward we would ask the following:-

1. Accept the proposed increases as an interim measure.
2. Review the funding proposals within the financial year should more funding be released either through better support from the Government, NHS etc.
3. Have a meaningful review of the cost of care and an agreement of an inflation multiplier.
4. Support in our writing to the Health Lead for the Council outlining our case for more, sustainable funding (i.e. that which does not require cross subsidy from the self-funding clients).
5. Review of the financial support to day care facilities who we understand have not received an uplift for some years now.

We trust these points can be considered and we can move forward to properly support providers in somewhat disillusioned times.

Yours sincerely

D E Ashworth
Chairman