

By email

Date: 28th March 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Supported Living Uplift 2024/25

Essex County Council are pleased to announce an uplift of 9.6% on the rates paid for supported living services within Essex from April 2024.

The Council are aware of the pressure being experienced in the market as a result of the high levels of inflation, and the significant increase to National Living Wage from April this year. You will be aware too that we have worked in collaboration with the market to update the cost of care and to ensure it is reflective of costs to providers in both complex and non-complex settings.

The hourly rates produced from our cost of care are:

- Non-complex day and night awake packages (including shared hours) - £21.00 per hour
- Complex supported living packages (including shared hours) - £23.08 per hour
- Night sleep packages will remain the same - £12.68 per hour

This uplift will be applied to all packages that are currently paid below the respective rate outlined above for the relevant package type. Packages that are paid above the new rates will remain on their current rate.

The complex supported living rate of £23.08 is paid on packages for adults that have been assessed as meeting the criteria ECC set out for complex needs. Schemes and individuals who applied for and were confirmed as complex in previous years will not need to do so again.

These rates apply from the first payment period of the current financial year, which begins on 31st March 2024. The new rates have been applied to our records and show automatically for the first payment period in April 2024. You should have received updated purchase orders and be able to see the changes to rates on the payment system but where you cannot please contact us as soon as possible.

These new rates will apply for any supported living placements for adults with disabilities that are placed within Essex, or that are part of our Supported Living Framework. This means that the automatic uplift will not apply to any placements outside Essex that are not a part of our framework. Uplifts to these placements will be managed on an application basis and any provider seeking an increase to their package will be required to contact Essex County Council directly; uplifts awarded will be up to the maximum offered by the host local authority. Applications for uplift on packages within this category must be made within this financial year, and any applications made after this point will not be eligible for an uplift.

Please note this relates to managed packages only and does not apply to any packages sourced directly by adults through a direct payment.

Additional Provider Support

The Council is committed to supporting the market to deal with financial challenges and reduce costs for care providers. Care England and ECC are promoting a variety of initiatives designed to solve problems deal with challenges, and reduce costs for care providers to supplement uplifts offered this year. These initiatives can be found via Care England's website and Essex County Council's Provider Hub at the following link: [Provider Support & Offers | Provider Hub | Essex \(essexproviderhub.org\)](#).

If there are any issues regarding these uplifts please contact one of our AWD Supported Living team:

Justin Butler: justin.butler@essex.gov.uk

Michael Rodway: michael.rodway@essex.gov.uk

Jack Hodgson: jack.hodgson@essex.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Spencer', with a small dot at the end.

Steve Ede
Head of Procurement
Procurement Services

W: www.essex.gov.uk