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**Retention Fund** - Essex County Council has been allocated £6.8M until 31/3/2024 for Social Care Providers that have ECC Adults within their service. The intention of this fund is to incentivise providers to reward their carer workforce to remain in employment.

**Training Fund** - £850,000 has been allocated until 31/3/2024 for Social Care Providers that have ECC Adults within their Service. The intention is to upskill carers without additional costs associated whilst covering carers' workload. Providers will be expected to claim funding to pay for staff to attend the training.

#### The Basics

Providers that meet the eligibility criteria will be eligible to receive support. Where providers have claimed relief, but evidence shows they do not meet the criteria for relief, ECC reserves the right to claim the money back from the supplier.

Audits of claims will be undertaken with retrospective action taken where appropriate.

Claim Forms and more information / FAQs can be found on the Provider Hub.

#### Some basics

**Workforce Retention Fund** - Providers will have funding allocated to pay their carers an additional £300 for 2023/24.

Total number of employees (registered on National Capacity Tracker as of 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023) x £300

**Training Fund** - Providers will be able claim funding to ensure carers attend training organised by the Provider Quality Innovation Team within ECC, between 1<sup>st</sup> Sept & 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Allocated claim will equate to the carer standard hourly rate plus 1 additional hour for travel time.

The maximum cap on the hourly rate that can be claimed is £15.00 per hour.

The first quarter from September until December will be assessed and ECC reserve the right to change the criteria after the first quarter.

Providers will be required to follow the clear criteria of booking and being present at the meeting. i.e. carers names must be on the attendance list and pre booked.

## Workforce Retention & Training Fund Contact details / where to find out more:

Look on the Provider Hub for more information and Claim Forms

<u>https://www.essexproviderhub.org/recruitment-retention-and-</u> wellbeing/retention/workforce-retention-fund/?utm\_source=eshot&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=ECCProviderbulletin-4October2023

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## Questions ?