

CONSULTATION PROPOSAL**Intended audience of the consultation**

- Residential and nursing care providers in Leicestershire.
- EMCARE.
- User representative organisations.
- Current and potential future residents of residential and nursing care provision.

Supporting information to be provided as part of the consultation

- Background information will include why the change is being made, what is proposed, how to respond and by what date.
- Details of the key policy/research that informs the approach will be outlined, in particular the Strategy: Promoting independence, Supporting Communities; Our Vision and Strategy for adult social care 2016–2020 and national report from the County Council Network and the Competition and Markets Authority.
- Provider engagement to date will be explained and information about it provided including the meeting notes and interim engagement report.
- A full explanation of the approach for each market; use of the Care Funding Calculator (CFC) for working age adult (WAA) placements and the band rates and Supplementary Needs Allowance (SNA) used in making older adult placements.
- Details of the Equality and Human Rights Impact Screening Assessment .

Key tools and methods to be used for the consultation

- Web based content, dedicated page with links to documentation, frequently asked questions (FAQs), links to policy, key organisations and data sources.
- An electronic response form.
- Individual meetings with user representative organisations.
- Opportunities for EMCARE and providers to engage via individual discussions as requested and locality based focus groups.

Key areas for consideration as part of consultation one

- The five band system for older adults will be replaced by a simple two band system which will simplify the process and more accurately reflect the needs of residents; in particular, can that approach cater for all older adults?
- The National Care Funding Calculator for Working Age Adults will be refreshed to reflect local costs;

- A review of the Council's standard cost template that will ensure that all relevant costs are included in the new model.
- The current Annual fee review will be updated in line with the proposed fee setting process. The approach to payments for those people who are placed out of county to reflect the Leicestershire fee rate and not the host local authority fee rate as is the current practice.
- The existing core contract, specification and schedules will be refreshed to reflect current legislation and policy. This will include the proposed removal of the Quality Assessment Framework premium payments, clarifying whether the specification clearly sets out the minimum standards of care required.

Key areas for consideration as part of consultation two

- The proposed standard cost models developed for older adults and working age adult hotel costs. That is, the actual assumptions and figures in the framework that was agreed in stage 1.
- Flowing from those cost models, the older adult band rates, the standard working age adult hotel costs and the standard SNA rates will be consulted upon. Providers will be asked for feedback on those fee levels.
- Transitional arrangements, including implementation dates and the risks and possible mitigations associated with that.
- The process for annual price review, in relation to key cost drivers, such as Consumer Price Index and National Living Wage, and updating automatically each year using a formula based on those published indices.