

West Sussex County Council

Urgent Action

The following key decision has been taken under the urgent action procedure by the Director of Law and Assurance, in consultation with the relevant officer and with the agreement of the relevant Committee Chairman.

Members are asked to note that this key decision has been included in the Forward Plan for the required 28 days. It was, however, not possible to wait for the 7 Working Day Call-In period and so agreement to the decision has been obtained from the relevant Committee Chairman.

Decision Title & Ref No:	Allocation of Infection Control Grant OKD23 (20/21)
Officer responsible for Decision	Tony Kershaw, Director of Law and Assurance
Officer responsible for Function	Alan Adams, Interim Executive Director Adults and Health
Decision published	16 July 2020
West Sussex Plan priority	Independence in Later Life
Electoral Divisions	All Divisions
Key Decision	Yes
Purpose	<p>On 15 May 2020 the government announced a care home support package backed by a £600m infection control fund with the aim of preventing and controlling the spread of COVID-19 in all registered care homes and help improve infection control measures across the care market. The specified purpose of the grant is to provide support to adult social care providers, including those with whom the Council does not have a contract, to reduce the rate of COVID-19 transmission in and between care homes and support wider workforce resilience to deliver infection control. The West Sussex allocation of this money is £13.363m.</p> <p>The expectation from government was that 75% of the money should be passported directly to registered care home providers (including those the Council doesn't already contract with) and the remaining 25% should be allocated based on local need. The grant funding is subject to a number of conditions set by central government, set out in the grant circular distributed by Government, which the Council is required to comply with.</p> <p>Due to the need to provide timely financial support to care providers who are facing challenges related to the Covid-19 pandemic an urgent decision was taken to allocate the 75% of Infection Control Funding to care providers (Report ref:OKD17 20/21). A further urgent decision on the allocation of the remaining 25% of Infection Control Funding is now taken.</p>

	<p>Please note this decision has been published to the Forward Plan for the required 28 Days. Following publication of the decision on 15 July 2020 the Adult Social Care Team were unable to wait for the usual 7 working day call-in period as the decision was urgent due to the need to provide timely support to the care sector in West Sussex.</p>
Decision	<p>The Director of Law & Assurance, with the agreement of the Interim Executive Director Adults and Health and the Chairman of the Health and Adults Social Care Scrutiny Committee, has used his delegated powers for urgent action for approval to be given that;</p> <p>(1) the remaining 25% of the Infection Control Funding is paid to providers in line with the proposal in section 2 of the published report, subject to providers' acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Council's grant agreement with them.</p>
Interest and nature of interest declared	None.
Reason for urgency	This decision is urgent due to the need to provide timely financial support to care providers who are facing challenges related to the Covid-19 pandemic.
Service Contact	Alan Adams, Interim Executive Director for Adults & Health (DASS) – Tel: 0330 022 28460
Democratic Services Contact	Erica Keegan Tel: 0330 022 26050
Background Papers	See report for details