

County Council 15 July 2022

Item 13(b) - Notice of Motion on Carers from Cllr O'Kelly

Amendment from Cllr Cooper

The current cost of living crisis is leading to increased energy bills, food prices and fuel costs for West Sussex residents. Although fuel duty was cut by 5 pence per litre in the Spring Statement, prices continue to rise and are at record highs.

West Sussex has 33,000 registered carers. They provide essential support in keeping residents in their homes with or close to their family and friends, and help to minimise the provision of costly in-home care visits and residential care. Many of our carers live with the person they care for but, for those who are not living with the person they care for, the impact of increased fuel bills is making the daily financial burden of being a carer even harder to manage.

In order to help these carers to continue to care, this Council calls on the Cabinet Member for Adults Services to ***maintain for as long as needed the comprehensive support, advice and grant funding this Council has*** set up ~~an emergency travel and transport fund for registered carers~~ ***(summarised below) and which allows for access to funds for essentials that can include fuel costs*** with the precise details of the funding and eligibility criteria left to the Cabinet Member. ***The range of current carer support includes:***

- ***Advice and information***
- ***Counselling***
- ***Respite care support***
- ***Health and wellbeing payments***
- ***Training and support on return to work***
- ***Carer assessments and direct payments***
- ***Hardship fund grants to cover essentials and work-related expenses***
- ***Welfare benefits advice to access a range of benefits and allowances***