

25 March 2016

Chair
Roberta Brownlee
Chief Executive (Deputy)
Kieran Donaghy

Letter to all organisations who provide domiciliary care services to residents from Southern Health and Social Care Trust

2016/17 Domiciliary Care Contract Arrangements

The Southern Trust wishes to continue to contract with you for the provision of domiciliary care services on a spot purchase arrangement. This letter outlines the conditions and timescales for extension of your current contract.

Contract Period

The Southern Trust wishes to extend its contract with you for a further 12 month period and is invoking this from the 24 month optional extension period allowed for, as outlined in our letter of 30 June 2014. This will cover the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

Contract Terms & Conditions

The terms and conditions relevant to all SHSCT residents are laid down in the Regional Domiciliary Care Service Specification and Contract we hold with you.

As always continuation of our contractual arrangements are subject to on-going satisfactory performance. In this regard, the Trust impresses the need on providers to comply with instructions from any representative authorised by the Trust, including the Trust's Internal Auditor as well as other relevant agencies, who may require access or copies of data, or information relating to the provision and management of the service. Information or actions sought must be provided promptly and in full. Non-compliance will result in the Trust taking an appropriate action in line with the terms of this contract.

Contract Rates

As you are aware the SHSCT awarded 1% recurrently and 1% non-recurrently to our domiciliary care rates in 2015/16. This brought the rates to £11.77 for Personal Care and £10.47 for Practical/Sitting Services.

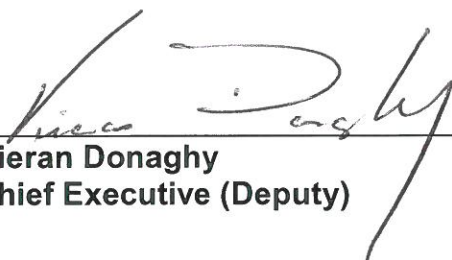
Due to ongoing concerns expressed by the sector regarding the burden of administering two rates and the fact that staff costs remained the same regardless of the type of care delivered and the financial impact of the new National Living Wage, the Southern Trust has agreed a new consolidated rate. This is based on a weighted average for both Personal & Practical/Sitting Services equalling £11.43. As a goodwill gesture the Trust will make the 1% non-recurrent uplift recurrent which brings this single rate to £11.54. This rate will take effect from midnight on 31 March 2016.

Further, in line with regional agreement, a 5% uplift will be applied to this rate from 00.01 on 1 April 2016 bringing the new single SHSCT rate for the 2016/17 year to £12.12 per hour.

Please invoice at this new rate from 1 April 2016.

I hope that you agree that this new rate represents our commitment to sustainability within the Domiciliary Care sector and addresses many of the issues expressed.

Yours faithfully



Kieran Donaghy
Chief Executive (Deputy)

cc Mrs Angela McVeigh – Director of Older People and Primary Care
Mr Francis Rice - Director of Mental Health and Disability Services
Mrs Melanie McClements – Assistant Director of Older Peoples Services
Mr Brian Beattie – Assistant Director of Primary Care
Mr Bryce McMurray - Assistant Director of Mental Health Services
Mr Miceal Crilly – Assistant Director of Disability Services
Mrs R Toner - Assistant Director of Enhanced Services for Older People and Primary Care
Mrs Dawn Livingstone – Head of Contracts
Mrs Alison Rutherford – Assistant Director of Finance