



## OFFICIAL EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE

PUBLISHED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Notice is hereby given that the following decision(s) have been made today by Cabinet Members at the London Borough of Hillingdon:

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| <b>Title of decision</b>            | <b>APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL TO STANDARDISE ALLOWANCE RATES FOR REGULATION 24 PLACEMENTS</b> |
| <b>Reference No.</b>                | 294   |
| <b>Date of decision</b>             | 15 October 2021   |
| <b>Call-in expiry date</b>          | 5pm, on Friday 22 October 2021  |
| <b>Relevant Select Committee(s)</b> | Families, Health & Wellbeing Select Committee   |
| <b>Relevant Ward(s)</b>             | All   |

### Decision made

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| <b>Cabinet Members making the decision</b> | Councillor Ian Edwards - Leader of the Council<br>Councillor Jane Palmer - Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care  |
| <b>DECISION</b>                            | <b>APPROVED</b><br><br>That the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care approve the proposal to standardise allowances given as part of Regulation 24 placements, as detailed in the report, moving to a maintenance only allowance in line with neighbouring boroughs.   |
| <b>Reason for decision</b>                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The decision is aimed at bringing the allowances for Connected Persons/Kinship Placements in line with neighbouring boroughs in that a maintenance allowance is paid without a further fostering fee pending the assessments and ratification of the final care plan for children and young people.</li><li>2. This will address the imbalance of paying the fostering rate for Regulation 24 placements, which do not have the same requirements placed upon them as foster carers. This will ensure that the rates provided for Special Guardians are more comparable to the Regulation 24 rates, which seeks to address the rising issue of carers continuing with connected persons fostering arrangements rather than SGO's which offer more stability and legal permanence for the child concerned.</li><li>3. The standardisation of this fee approach will provide financial</li></ol> |

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|  | benefit. It is recommended that Reg 24 carers will receive £224.29 (under 12) or £292.41 (over 12) per week for the duration of their approval. The change in policy would be in line with social work practice across neighbouring authorities whilst ensuring carers are financially supported to provide for children in their care. |
| <b>Alternative options considered and rejected</b>                           | None at this stage.   |
| <b>Classification</b>  | Part 1 - Public   |
| <b>Link to associated report</b>   | <a href="#">here</a> .  |
| <b>Relevant Officer contact &amp; Directorate</b>                            | Julie Kelly, Social Care & Health<br>Poppy Reddy, Social Care & Health  |
| <b>Any interest declared by the Cabinet Member(s) / dispensation granted</b> | N/A   |

## **Implementation of decision & scrutiny call-in**

| <b>[Internal Use only]</b>                                |  |
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| <b>When can this decision be implemented by officers?</b> | <p>Officers can implement Cabinet Member decision in this notice only from the expiry of the scrutiny call-in period which is:</p> <p><b>5pm, on 22 October 2021</b></p> <p>However, this is subject to the decision not being called in by Councillors on the relevant Select Committee. Upon receipt of a valid call-in request, Democratic Services will immediately advise the relevant officer(s) and the decision must then be put on hold.</p>  |
| <b>Councillor scrutiny call-in of this decision</b>       | <p>Councillors on the relevant Select Committee shown in this notice may request to call-in this decision. The request must be before the expiry of the scrutiny call-in period above.</p> <p>Councillors should use the Scrutiny Call-in App (link below) on their devices to initiate any call-in request. Further advice can be sought from Democratic Services if required:</p> <p><a href="#">Scrutiny Call-In - Power Apps</a> (secure)</p>  |
| <b>Further information</b>                                | <p>These decisions, where applicable, have been taken under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.</p> <p>This is the formal notice by the Council of the above executive decision, including links to the reports where applicable.</p> <p>If you would like more information on this decision, please contact Democratic Services on 01895 250636 or email: <a href="mailto:democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk">democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk</a>.</p> |

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|  | <p>Circulation of this decision notice is to a variety of people including Members of the Council, Corporate Directors, Officers, Group Secretariats and the Public. Copies are also placed on the Council's website.</p> |
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**Democratic Services  
London Borough of Hillingdon  
Civic Centre  
High Street  
Uxbridge  
UB8 1UW**