

Implementation Steering Group – Tuesday 13 March, 2018 Finance Update

Overall Estimated Costs

- The Carer's Bill Financial Memorandum sets out overall estimated costs of implementing the Act, representing significant new investment in Carers by the SG over the next 5 years, rising from £19m in year 1 to nearly £90m by year 5.
- This is in addition to existing spend on Carers, e.g. £200m on respite care by LA's.

2017 Spending Review

- Additional £66m of funding to Local Authorities in 2018-19 to bring Carers Act into force, to continue to support the delivery of the Living Wage for adult social care workers, and to increase payments for free personal and nursing care.
- Funding for Carer's Act is therefore not explicit as such but part of £66m.
- Funding will go direct to LA's, not via Health Boards as per previous years.
- LA's will need to agree relevant amount to be transferred to IJB's in respect of social care – no formal direction from SG.
- Funding will be provided directly to LA's on a GAE basis.

Carer Information Strategy (CIS) Funding

- £4.75m funding now included in the £66m funding for Carers Act.
- Of the £19.4m identified in Financial Memorandum, £12.4m related to LA's plus £5m for CIS.
- Remaining £2m will go direct to third sector, etc.

Children's Services

- Given £66m funding will go directly to LA's, they will need to deduct element in respect of children's services before transferring to IJB's if children's services are not delegated to IJB's
- More simply, LA's will need to estimate cost of Carers Act for adults and transfer to IJB's.

New Carers Act Finance Group

- The key financial risk is how we manage the position if demand is much higher or lower than predicted – this will require good data to support this position so that it can be raised and considered at the earliest opportunity.
- This group will therefore focus not only on identifying and mitigating financial risks but also on collecting robust data in order that we can demonstrate the financial impact of the Act.

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