

Our Ref: ID 1620

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group  
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**Re: Freedom of Information Request (FOI) – Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN)**

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received into this office on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**You Asked for:**

Please answer these FOI questions in context of Nursing Care Home providers in which the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) places Continuing Healthcare Funded (CHC) residents:

**2018/19**

1. What percentage annual fee uplift was offered to care home providers for inflation on existing CHC packages of care funded by your CCG for the period 2018/19?
2. What was the CCGs approach to CQUIN in 2018/19 and what was the average CQUIN payment awarded to care homes in 2018/19 for residents in receipt of CHC funding?
3. Of the total CQUIN amount paid in 2018/19, what percentage out of a potential 100% was actually paid to care home providers for this period?

**2019/20**

4. What percentage annual fee uplift was offered to care home providers for inflation on existing CHC packages of care funded by your CCG for the period 2019/20? Please provide a copy of correspondence to providers explaining this.
5. What was the CCG's approach to CQUIN in 2019/20 and what was the average CQUIN payment awarded to care homes in 2019/20 for residents in receipt of CHC funding for the periods to date (by month or by quarter)? Please provide a copy of correspondence to providers explaining this.
6. The 2019/20 Operational Planning and Contracting guidance published in December 2018 and updated January 2019 specifically clause 3.2 (available on the following link) <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/nhs-operational-planning-and-contracting-guidance.pdf> stated that 50% of the 2.5% CQUIN (1.25%) should be added to CHC base fees. Please confirm if your CCG added this 1.25% to its base fee in addition to annual inflation and provide a copy of relevant correspondence to providers which outlined this to be the case or state how the CCG otherwise conformed with this guidance.
7. Of the total remaining CQUIN amount (1.25%) to be paid in 2019/20, what percentage so far (by month or by quarter) out of a potential 100% which could have been paid (by month or by quarter) has been paid to care home providers for this period?

8. Regarding the above question, please confirm if this was paid under the small contract exemption provision or whether providers were required to fulfil any quality criteria in order to achieve this funding. If criteria were required to be met, please state the criteria or quality metrics necessary and provide a copy of correspondence sent to providers outlining this.

### **2020/21**

9. What percentage annual fee uplift will be offered to care home providers for inflation on existing CHC packages of care funded by your CCG for the period 2020/21? If this has not been finalised, please confirm the approach to calculating this or whether NHS National Tariff guidance will form its basis of any fee uplift award (latest consultation link: [https://improvement.nhs.uk/documents/6257/2021\\_NTPS\\_statutory\\_consultation\\_notice.pdf](https://improvement.nhs.uk/documents/6257/2021_NTPS_statutory_consultation_notice.pdf) )
10. For 2020/21 the above consultation guidance under clause 235 states that the 1.25% which was added to base fee should continue. Please confirm if this is to be the case by your CCG for the period 2020/21 and how the CCG will manage or is expecting to manage any CQUIN scheme for the remaining 1.25% for the period 2020/21 or whether this will also be added to the base fee under the small contract value provision in the national framework.

### **Our Response:**

1. NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) annual fee uplift percentage during the 2018/2019 financial year was 2%, for those care home providers who requested it.
2. All prices agreed with care home providers during the 2018/2019 financial year included Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) payment as standard, with CQUIN payments not being optional.
3. 100% of CQUIN payments were paid during the 2018/2019 financial year to care home providers.
4. NHS Wirral CCG's annual fee uplift percentage during the 2019/2020 financial year was 2%, for those care home providers who requested it.
5. All prices agreed with care home providers during the 2019/2020 financial year for residents in receipt of Continuing Health Care (CHC) funding include CQUIN payment as standard, with CQUIN payments not being optional. This is included within the contract. CQUIN may include local measures for Care Homes, CQUIN will operate over two years and further details on the National measures stated within the contract.
6. All contracts agreed with care home providers during the 2019/2020 financial year state within them that the price agreed includes CQUIN.
7. 100% of CQUIN payments so far during the 2019/2020 financial year have been paid to care home providers.
8. All CQUIN payments made during the 2019/2020 financial year were paid under the small contract exemption provision.
9. The planned fee uplift to care home providers for the 2020/2021 financial year has not yet been finalised. Uplifts will be based on NHS planning guidance and local negotiation.
10. CQUIN will continue to be confirmed within the contract prices agreed with care home providers and payment made under the small contract exemption provision for the 2020/2021 financial year. To note, the CQUIN is already built into the price, as per the contract.

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

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