

# Public Document Pack

Date: 24 May 2023

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

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Dear Councillor

## **CABINET - THURSDAY 25TH MAY, 2023**

I refer to the agenda for the above meeting and now enclose the following report(s) which were unavailable when the agenda was published.

### **Agenda No.**

### **Item**

**4 Adult Social Care Fees 2023/24 (Pages 655 - 656)**

A letter from the Alternative Futures Group relating to the Supported Living Rates 2023/2024 is attached.

With reference to the report previously published, Mr Jonathan Cunningham, Chair of the North and South Sefton Care Home Group has submitted a petition containing 132 signatures which states:

*We the undersigned "Consider the proposed Sefton increase of social care fees of 16% remains insufficient to cover the cost of care. Sefton recognise that this remains below the true cost of care. Sefton is asked to reconsider and review this proposed fee rate.*

*Desired Outcome:*

- 1. That Sefton reconsider the rate and increase to at least 20%*
- 2. Sefton provide assurance that it is the True Cost of Care that should be paid".*

Mr Cunningham will be allowed to address the Cabinet on the content of the petition for a period of 5 minutes.

**8 Appointments to Outside Bodies 2023/24 (Pages 657 - 664)**

Appendices attached

Yours faithfully,

DWAYNE JOHNSON

Chief Executive

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Paul Cummins  
Cabinet Council Member  
Sefton Council  
(Sent by email only)

24<sup>th</sup> May 2023

## **Re: Sefton Council Supported Living Rates 2023-24 – Sector Risks**

Dear Mr Cummins,

I hope this letter finds you well. I have wrote to you previously on the matter of Sefton Council providing appropriate funding to social care providers to ensure quality, safety and sustainability in our provision.

The principle point being that providers continue to struggle to attract and retain skilled and experienced care staff within a National Living Wage (NLW) Council funded model. High inflation, the cost of living crisis, and competing sectors offering significantly greater salaries and benefits are preventing providers competing for essential workforce. This is a national crisis outlined by Skills for Care assessment that the sector is currently carrying >165,000 social care vacancies at any one time (14.4% of required workforce).

In my review of your Cabinet papers for 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023, I note that Council officers have ignored calls by Supported Living providers to address the problems and risks of funding services at NLW levels. In fact we are still awaiting a formal response from the Council to the feedback provided from the consultation process and included in the Cabinet pack. This avoidance to respond and address the funding and workforce issue will continue to cause significant difficulties for Supported Living providers and put at risk the safety and sustainability of services. The pay market for care workers has shifted significantly away from NLW in the last 18 months with Real Living Wage (RLW) now being the competitive norm in order to attract and retain skilled and experienced staff.

Contrastingly, I note that the Council has increased funding for all elderly services, such as Care Homes, Domiciliary Care and Extra Care, in order to allow providers to afford RLW. This "service selective increase" of funding to afford RLW for elderly people services will further exacerbate the workforce issues by creating a 2-tier sector pay issue. The consequence of this will mean staff from Supported Living and other "NLW funded/paid" services will be at flight risk in moving from NLW paid services to better paid RLW funded elderly services. This deliberate strategy is against the principles and duties of market shaping as outlined in the Care Act - section 5, and will cause added risk to the already fragile social care workforce market in Sefton.

# Agenda Item 4

Furthermore, this action significantly discriminates disability services which are predominantly funded and provided by the Supported Living sector. The Council have essentially sent a message to disabled people and the disability services sector that their care and support is secondary in priority and funding to that of elderly services. This cannot be ethical. It will also send a wrong message to care workers in Supported Living that they are not as valued as those workers in elderly care home or domiciliary services.

In the Liverpool City Region Fair Pay Charter, Steve Rotheram demands "*a fair day's pay for a fair day's work*". He also talks about the need for all workers in LCR to be paid the "*Real Living Wage*". This has been recognised by all other Liverpool City Region Councils who now fund Supported Living providers at a Real Living Wage level, but yet Sefton are proposing not to do this. It would appear that Labour party principles are not at the heart of decision making in Sefton when it comes to Supported Living and disability service funding. Our services seem very much the poor and forgotten relation which makes motivating our workforce incredibly difficult. I also suggest that the news of your funding plans have yet to reach the families of the people we support otherwise you would likely have had representation from them also.

Finally, as AFG is a provider of Supported Living services to almost all LCR authorities, it gives me no pleasure to inform you that Sefton is the lowest paying authority in LCR for Supported Living services. It is now also the only Council offering an NLW pay rate for Support Workers in 2023-24 financial year. At £18.41 per hour, Sefton's Supported Living rate is £1.11 per hour LESS than Wirral Council and £0.60 per hour LESS than Liverpool City Council. Sefton will also be the only authority where a 2-tier pay system will be created between care workers depending upon if they work in elderly-focused (RLW pay) or disability services (NLW pay).

Whilst I continue to fully appreciate the funding challenges that the Council faces from Central Government, it has been shown by the likes of Wirral and Liverpool Council (who face equal if not worse challenges), that funding can be prioritised to afford RLW fund service where there is a political will. I therefore politely request that the above issue is verbally raised at the Cabinet meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023 for full consideration prior to approval of 2023/24 Supported Living fees. The creation of a 2-tier pay market within Sefton service provision is a high risk strategy and not a positive outcome for any of us, especially our incredible workforce, the vulnerable people we support on your behalf, and their families.

Yours sincerely,



Ian Pritchard  
**CEO | Alternative Futures Group**

**CC:**

Cllr. Ian Maher - Leader of the Council and Leader of Labour Group  
Cllr. Ian Moncur - Cabinet Member - Health and Wellbeing  
Cllr. Carla Thomas - Chair Adult Social Care & Health Committee  
Deborah Butcher – Executive Director of Adult Social Care & Health

<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>CABINET PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE(S)</u>
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**APPENDIX 1**

**APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES APPROVED BY THE CABINET**

**ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO EXPIRE IN MAY 2024**

<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>CABINET PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE(S)</u>
Armed Forces Member Champion	Communities and Housing	1	Councillor Carragher
British Destinations	Regeneration and Skills	1	Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson) or nominee
Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership	Health and Wellbeing	1	Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Moncur)
Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care System Joint Health Scrutiny Committee	Health and Wellbeing	2	Councillors Desmond and Lunn-Bates  <b>The political places available on the Committee for 2023/24 are Lab 2 / LD&amp;PA 0 / Con 0</b>
Elevate Education Business Partnership	Education	3	Cabinet Member – Education (Councillor Roscoe) and Councillors Moncur and Pugh
Formby Pool Trust - Board	Health and Wellbeing	2	Councillor Killen and Assistant Director of People - Communities (Simon Burnett)
Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Board	Regeneration and Skills	1	Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson)

Liverpool City Region Housing and Spatial Planning Board	Communities and Housing	1	Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy) (Substitute: Cabinet Member - Planning and Building Control – Councillor Veidman)														
Liverpool John Lennon Airport Consultative Committee	Regeneration and Skills	1	Councillor Hart (Substitute: Councillor Myers)														
Local Government Association General Assembly	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services	1	Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher) - 5 votes														
Mersey Forest Partnership Steering Group	Regeneration and Skills	1	Councillor Roche														
Mersey Port Health Committee	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Resources	6	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Member</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Substitute</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>VACANCY (Lab)</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>VACANCY (Lab)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr John Kelly</td> <td>Cllr Cluskey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Howard</td> <td>Cllr Spencer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr O'Brien</td> <td>Cllr Chris Maher</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Roche</td> <td>Cllr Dowd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Shaw</td> <td>Cllr Lynne Thompson</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>The political places available on the Committee for 2023/24 are Lab 5 / LD&amp;PA 1 / Con 0</b></p>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>	<b>VACANCY (Lab)</b>	<b>VACANCY (Lab)</b>	Cllr John Kelly	Cllr Cluskey	Cllr Howard	Cllr Spencer	Cllr O'Brien	Cllr Chris Maher	Cllr Roche	Cllr Dowd	Cllr Shaw	Cllr Lynne Thompson
<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>																
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<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>CABINET PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE(S)</u>														
Merseyside Pension Fund	Regulatory, Compliance and	1	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and														

Pensions Committee	Corporate Services		Corporate Services (Councillor Lappin) or nominee
North West Employers' Organisation	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services	1	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services (Councillor Lappin) (Substitute: Councillor Moncur)
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London) Adjudication Joint Committee	Locality Services	1	Cabinet Member - Locality Services (Councillor Fairclough) (Substitute: Councillor Veidman)  <b>(NB - Nominated Member and Substitute must be Cabinet Members)</b>
Peterhouse School, Southport – Governance Committee	Children's Social Care	1	Cabinet Member – Children's Social Care (Councillor Doyle)
Safer Sefton Together	Communities and Housing	3	Cabinet Member - Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy) and the two Council representatives on the Merseyside Police and Crime Panel (Councillors Corcoran and Harvey)
Sandway Homes Limited Board and Sandway (ACS) Holding Company Ltd (Sefton Housing Development Company)	Communities and Housing	2	Councillor Myers  Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services (Councillor Lappin) is the Shareholder Representative)
Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board	Health and Wellbeing	2	Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Moncur) and Councillor Cummins

<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>CABINET PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE(S)</u>
Sefton Council for Voluntary Service (Advisory non-voting members on the Board of Trustees)	Communities and Housing	3	Councillors Grace, Pugh and Robinson
Sefton Cycling Forum	Locality Services	2	Councillors John Joseph Kelly and Lloyd-Johnson
Sefton Domestic Abuse Partnership Board	Communities and Housing	2	Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy) and Assistant Director of People (Communities) – Simon Burnett
Sefton Hospitality Operations Limited Board	Regeneration and Skills	3	Councillor Howard and Service Manager (Finance) – Paul Reilly  Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson) is the Shareholder Representative
Sefton New Directions Limited Board	Adult Social Care	4	Councillors Dowd, John Joseph Kelly and Hardman  (Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care (Councillor Cummins) is the Shareholder Representative
Sefton Partnership for Older Citizens	Adult Social Care	1	Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care (Councillor Cummins)
Southport Pier Trust	Regeneration and Skills	3	Councillors Brough, Dodd and Waterfield



<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>CABINET PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE(S)</u>
Southport Town Deal Board	Regeneration and Skills	2	Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson) and Executive Director – Place (Stephen Watson)
Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education (SACRE)	Education	4	<p><u>Member</u>                      <u>Substitute</u></p> <p>Cabinet Member – Education (Cllr Roscoe) Cllr Thomas Cllr Grace                      Cllr Richards Cllr Hansen                      Cllr Webster Cllr Pugh                      Cllr Lloyd-Johnson</p> <p><b>The political places available for 2023/24 are Lab 3 / LD&amp;PA 1 / Con 0</b></p>
Trans Pennine Trail Members Steering Group	Locality Services	2	Cabinet Member - Locality Services (Councillor Fairclough) and Cabinet Member - Planning and Building Control (Councillor Veidman) or their nominees.
Veterans in Sefton Board	Communities and Housing	1	Councillor Lappin
<b>AD-HOC APPOINTMENTS</b>			
Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (where 3 or less local authorities request the scrutiny of a substantial variation to a service)	Health and Wellbeing	3	Chair (Councillor Thomas) and Vice Chair (Councillor Myers) of the O & S Committee (Adult Social Care and Health) and one LD&PAL Member (Councillor Brodie-Browne) <b>The political places available on the Committee for 2023/24 are Lab 2 / LD&amp;PA 1 / Con 0</b>
Joint Health Scrutiny Committee (where 4 or more local authorities request the scrutiny of a substantial variation to a	Health and Wellbeing	2	Chair (Councillor Thomas) and Vice Chair (Councillor Myers) of the O & S Committee (Adult Social Care and Health) <b>The political places available on the Committee for 2023/24 are Lab 2 / LD&amp;PA 0 / Con 0</b>

service)			
ORGANISATION	CABINET PORTFOLIO	NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES	ORGANISATION
<b>OFFICER ONLY APPOINTMENTS (NOT LISTED ABOVE)</b>			
Southport Business Improvement District (BID) Board	Regeneration and Skills	1	Service Manager – Tourism (Mark Catherall)

**APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES APPROVED BY THE CABINET**

**APPOINTMENTS FOR A PERIOD OF OVER ONE YEAR**

**Seeking approval of appointments in bold**

<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>CABINET PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE(S)</u>	<u>TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRES</u>
Merseyside Strategic Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Partnership	Health and Wellbeing	1	Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Moncur) (Substitute representative – Councillor Atkinson)	31.5.2025 (4-year appointment)
North West Reserve Forces and Cadets Association	Communities and Housing	1	Councillor Byrom	31.5.2026 (3-year appointment)
<b>North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority</b>	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Councillor McGinnity or nominee and Green Sefton Manager (Mark Shaw)</b>	<b>31.5.2027 (4-year appointment)</b>
Genesis - South Sefton Development Trust	Regeneration and Skills	1	Councillor Fairclough	30.5.2024 (3-year appointment)
<b>CHARITIES</b>				
<b>Ashton Memorial Fund, Formby</b>	<b>Communities and Housing</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Councillor Killen</b>	<b>31.5.2027 (4-year appointment)</b>
Consolidated Charities of Thomas Brown and Marsh Dole (Formby)	Communities and Housing	2	Councillors Page and Webster	26.6.2026 (4-year appointment)
Halsall Educational Foundation	Education	1	Councillor Grace	31.5.2024 (2-year appointment)
	<u>CABINET</u>	<u>NUMBER OF</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE(S)</u>	<u>TERM OF OFFICE</u>

<u>ORGANISATION</u>	<u>PORTFOLIO</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVES</u>		<u>EXPIRES</u>
<b><u>NHS FOUNDATION TRUST GOVERNING BODIES</u></b>				
Liverpool University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors	Health and Wellbeing	1	Councillor Hansen	31.7.2025 (3-year appointment)
<b>Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust - Council of Governors</b>	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Councillor Thomas</b>	<b>31.9.2026 (3-year appointment)</b>
Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust – Council of Governors	Health and Wellbeing	1	Councillor Webster	30.4.2025 (3-year appointment)