Adult Social Care:

**Market Position Statements**

Commissioners are working with internal and external stakeholders service users to develop and update the council’s suite of Market Position Statements. The Statements cover residential and extra care housing, care at home including supported living, discharge services, wellbeing including domestic abuse and homelessness support and carers. The purpose of the Statements is to give an account of the support that is available currently, what support and care services people might need in the future and to set out how commissioners of adult social care want to work with the sector, including developers, to shape provision going forward. The changes in the market and demand as a result of the coronavirus pandemic will be reflected in the Statements. Publication anticipated in March 2021.

**Wellbeing Offer**

The Covid19 pandemic has impacted the timetabling of the procurement of the Wellbeing service. The procurement process is now ready to be restarted and in the meantime, our cabinet committee has agreed to extend all grants in accordance with the phasing of the procurement.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Phase 3 |
| Sept 2020 – Mar 2021 | Jan- Sept 2021 | Jan 2021- Mar 2022 |
| Sensory Impairment  Wellbeing: Thanet/South Kent Coastal | Physical Disability  Wellbeing: Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley | Carers Short Breaks |
| Wellbeing: West Kent | Wellbeing: Ashford/Canterbury/Swale |
| Specialist Dementia (all) |
| New Contracts start:  1 April 2021 | New Contracts start:  1 October 2021 | New Contracts start:  1 April 2022 |

**Emergency Assistance Grant**

The Government has allocated £1,67m to KCC as a one-off contribution for the 2020-21 financial year to support households experiencing financial hardship as a result of Covid 19. This is the council’s share of the widely-trailed £63m nationally, which is intended to ‘help local authorities to continue to support those struggling to afford food and other essentials over the coming months due to COVID-19’. £735k of this money has been disseminated to district and borough councils, £200 has been given to Kent Community Foundation and the remaining £735k has been awarded to KCC’s local welfare service KSAS.

The funding is assisting the council to help new cohorts of individuals, including those affected by the ending of the furlough scheme and the ending of the ban on evictions. The KSAS eligibility criteria have been extended and modified to account for this new demand and as a result, applications are rising. Partners are encouraged to support residents in hardship to apply for help by visiting [www.kent.gov.uk/ksas](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ksas)

**Business Continuity**

Commissioners are working with providers to ensure that learning from the pandemic are being applied to strengthen business continuity plans across the sector. A series of exercises and workshops are being undertaken to test and explore the themes including those that may run concurrently such as EU transition, Winter Preparation and the possibility of local lockdown.

**C19 Testing in Extra Care Housing and Supported Living**

The commissioners are working with providers, public health colleagues and the DHSC on testing in these settings. In the short term, a single test is planned in October and it is hoped that routine testing will be introduced thereafter.