



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

To: WARDEN AND COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF FRONTENAC

From: Elizabeth Savill
CAO

Prepared By: Julie Shillington
Administrator of Fairmount

Date Prepared: July 11, 2011

Date of Meeting: August 17, 2011

Re: Fairmount Home – PSW Funding

Background

The Long Term Care Homes Level-of-Care Per Diem Funding Policy is established by the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and outlines the per-diem funding approach by the Ministry for long-term care homes.

The following is the policy regarding PSW funding that was in place at July 1, 2010:

*Licensees receive \$1.25 per resident per day as part of the NPC envelope **to increase the number of PSW hours and PSW FTE positions**. Funding is based on actual resident days if a licensee does not meet its target long-stay resident days, or maximum resident days if a licensee meets its target long-stay resident days for the home. For further information on occupancy targets please see the LTCH Occupancy Targets Policy. Licensees are required to apply the funding to increase the number of PSW hours and PSW FTE positions. The licensee must maintain records relating to the use of the funding for the home.*

As you are aware staff and the current and past Wardens at Frontenac have been lobbying for some time now for the removal of the requirement to increase PSW hours and FTE positions. This would allow municipal homes already providing enhanced staffing levels to use the funding to offset the municipal contributions.

Comment

I am truly pleased to provide you with the new PSW funding policy which has been revised effective April 1, 2011 as follows:

*Licensees receive \$3.12 per resident per day as part of the NPC **envelope to increase the number of provincially-funded, through LHINs, PSW hours and PSW FTE positions**. Funding is based on actual resident days if a licensee does*

not meet its target long-stay resident days, or maximum resident days if a licensee meets its target long-stay resident days for the home. For further information on occupancy targets please see the LTCH Occupancy Targets Policy. Licensees are required to apply the funding to increase the number of provincially-funded PSW hours and PSW FTE positions. The licensee must maintain detailed records, in the form required by the Ministry substantiating the use of the PSW funding for the home and provide information as directed about the increase in the number of net new provincially-funded PSW FTEs and PSW hours in the annual staffing survey, and otherwise as may be directed. Note that the additional amount in the per diem for this purpose effective April 1, 2011 may only be allocated to PSW hours and FTE positions created on or after that date.

This translates into \$144,527 annually based on our current CMI of 99.15. The County now has the option to use the funds to create more full-time positions or, as the County provides a contribution to the nursing envelope to fund staffing, to offset the municipal contribution with these funds – in essence the Ministry will be funding more full-time positions instead of the County.

This is a tremendous success for the County. Many hours have been spent writing letters, making telephone calls and conducting presentations all in an effort to change the funding policy. To see that the Ministry has heard our concerns is a tribute to the efforts of many.

Sustainability Implications

This additional funding will help to meet the County's Health & Social Services Vision Statements.

Financial Implications

This additional funding will greatly assist with the balancing of the Fairmount budget in 2011 and prevent further lay-offs or reductions in staffing hours that have been considered. The need to absorb overtime costs, higher longer-term sick time levels, the need this year to contract for nursing services to maintain staffing levels have all had an adverse impact. Although the new funding might have offered an opportunity to recommend that Council consider additional temporary staff until the end of the budget cycle, it would be imprudent to do so at this time. The financial situation will continue to be monitored closely and further information will be provided to Council over the next few months.

Recommendation

That Council of the County of Frontenac receive the *Fairmount Home – PSW Funding* report for information only.

Organizations, Departments and Individuals Consulted and/or Affected

Residents
Staff
Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care
South-East LHIN