

**Please ask for:**

James Cawley

**Email:**

[jcawley@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jcawley@somerset.gov.uk)

**Direct Dial:**

**Date:** 05<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Shared Lives Carer,

### **Shared Lives South West / Somerset County Council**

Thank you to everyone who attended the consultation meetings at the Shared Lives South West offices in late February regarding the proposed banding tool / Scheme for Shared Lives Carers. Following my letter in late April, I am now writing to you to explain when a decision about the banding toolkit will occur.

As you know, the new funding Scheme being proposed is based on the Shared Lives South West "banding tool", which was submitted as part of the contract negotiations between the Scheme and Somerset County Council. I have explained this proposal in my previous letters.

In my previous letter, I also explained that the consultation on the banding tool / Scheme would run until early May 2020. I can confirm that the consultation period has now ended, which means that the Council now needs to publish that a decision about the banding toolkit will be made by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Councillor David Huxtable. This notification will include that a decision will be made on **1<sup>st</sup> July 2020**.

I have drafted a report for Cllr David Huxtable to consider, that: "Approves the banding toolkit to be adopted for existing Shared Lives Carers and to provide **a period of income protection for those Carers who may be financially worse off.**"

At present the period of income protection being considered is **2 or 3 years**.

I understand that the proposal to be considered by Cllr David Huxtable may not meet everyone's approval, but I hope that the proposed period of income protection will provide sufficient time for Shared Lives South west, the Council and you to discuss the impact on you.

In my last letter to you in late April I confirmed that before any formal decision was implemented, you would have a further opportunity to explain the impact of the decision on you. If you wish to respond, please do so by emailing Ellie Welch [emwelch@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:emwelch@somerset.gov.uk) or myself [jcawley@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jcawley@somerset.gov.uk) **before 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020**, so that I can share this information with Cllr David Huxtable prior to him making a decision.

Thank you once again for your time, and I will be in touch following the decision by Cllr David Huxtable.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Cawley', with a small flourish at the end.

James Cawley

**Strategic Manager - Commissioning**