

**Alan White**  
**Cabinet Member for Health, Care & Wellbeing**  
**Councillor for Lichfield – Lichfield Rural East**  
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Mr J Bentley  
Chair of the Staffordshire Carers Partnership  
c/o Healthwatch Staffordshire  
Suite 2  
Opus House  
Priestley Court  
Staffordshire Technology Park  
ST18 0LQ

My Ref: AW-121/SS

Your Ref:

Date: 29 July 2016

Dear Mr Bentley

**Re: Withdrawal of £15m Better Care Fund Monies**

The County Council has a £15m gap in our budget as a result of a loss of an anticipated £15m income through the Better Care Fund. To manage this we have introduced additional spending controls across all of our operations and are also looking at where savings can be made in Health and Care services.

We do recognise the contribution that family, friends and other unpaid carers make to people's care and support. We have agreed in principle some savings to carers' services subject to a final decision by the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Well-being. However we do need to stress that these would not come from existing services, they would come from deferring some of the additional investment currently planned for further redesign of carers' support.

We will continue to invest over £2m in support for carers, including the Carers' Hub and respite care. These services will not be affected by any savings. We are also working with the voluntary sector to strengthen the ability of communities to help people, including carers, who are not eligible for local authority support.



We would like to thank the Staffordshire Carers Partnership Board for your contribution to the decision making process. In particular we are grateful for your offer of ongoing assistance to help us consider how the Council and communities can meet the needs of carers' needs in a targeted, effective and affordable way.

Yours sincerely



**Alan White**  
Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing  
Councillor for Lichfield – Lichfield Rural East



**Richard Harling**  
Director of Health and Care

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