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Dear Councillor Parry,

I am writing to thank you for the work that COSLA, and the Scottish Welfare Fund teams in councils, have done with my officials over the past few weeks to develop the Self-Isolation Support Grant and to be ready to launch it on 12 October.

We want to do everything we can to support people throughout this challenging time, and these payments will help ensure workers on low incomes who cannot work from home do not have to choose between self-isolating and getting paid.

I appreciate that this has required a lot of hard work in a very short period of time across every local authority. We will continue to work closely with local authorities to address any issues that emerge now that the Grant is in place.

Yours sincerely,

**Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP**

