



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

19 May 2022

Report of the Director - Public Health

Update on Public Health Covid-19 Community Response Fund

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 All

2. Key Decision

2.1 No

3. Purpose

3.1 To provide an update on organisations supported through the Public Health Covid-19 Community Response Fund.

4. Information and Analysis

4.1 The ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic has seen many organisations across Derbyshire continue to work to ensure the basic needs of local residents are met, and it is apparent that a number of community and voluntary sector organisations require additional resources to provide this support to those most impacted by the pandemic. In addition, while the majority of Covid-19 restrictions are no longer in place, supporting the most vulnerable residents, as well as staff and volunteers, means that community and voluntary sector organisations continue to implement Covid-safe measures, often requiring additional resources to enable this.

- 4.2 On 2 September 2021, the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities approved the establishment of the Public Health Covid-19 Community Response Fund to support voluntary and community sector organisations in mitigating the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on local communities, and to work to improve the health and wellbeing of local populations. Funding of up to a maximum value of £2,000 was available for constituted groups and £250 for non-constituted groups. This fund builds from the Covid-19 Emergency Fund which was approved by the Cabinet Member on 24 June 2020 and allocated a total of £0.196m to local groups and organisations.
- 4.3 The Public Health Covid-19 Community Response Fund is funded from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund, a specific grant from central Government to enable local authorities to continue to support ongoing outbreak management activity in relation to Covid-19. For this reason, all applications need to be linked to the grant conditions. Examples of activities include:
- Supporting organisations to reopen safely in line with current guidance.
 - Delivering and coordinating virtual/ digital events and activities where there is a need to do so (Covid-secure).
 - Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing and resilience so people have the skills in place to self-isolate and cope with any further periods of lockdown or enhanced restrictions.
 - Strengthening local networks of support and community resilience to ensure local support is available to work alongside statutory services.
 - Supporting groups that have been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 and are considered to be at greater risk if there are any subsequent outbreaks (e.g. Black and minority ethnic communities, clinically extremely vulnerable, domestic violence, low income, homeless populations).
- 4.4 Authority for approval of applications was delegated by the Cabinet Member to the Director of Public Health, with quarterly update reports in respect of organisations funded to Cabinet Member meetings. This is the second quarterly update covering organisations who have received funding from 1 January 2022.
- 4.5 On 13 January 2022 the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities noted that £37,727.93 had been allocated (1 September 2021 – 31 December 2021).

4.6 The applications, detailed below, have been reviewed and approved for funding. Funding decisions are made by a panel comprising of a Public Health Lead and members of the Health Protection Team, before ratification by the Director of Public Health. The following organisations, detailed in the table on the next page, have been approved for funding:

Organisation	Location	Application details	Funding requested
B:Friend	Chesterfield, North East, Bolsover	Recruit, train and manage volunteer befrienders to provide community-based intervention for some of the most excluded people in society with proactive outreach in areas at the highest risk of loneliness among older people. Going to people who don't feel able to visit venues.	£1,950.00
Salcare	Amber Valley	Increase in demand for service due to Covid-19 enable a reduction in the waiting list for an Art Therapy Group. Funding would double the number of children who receive Art Psychotherapy as part of domestic abuse support.	£2,000.00
Helping Hooves CIC	Erewash	Provision of equipment to offer a safe outdoor space and activities for people who have been isolated and concerned about socialising. Offering Improvements in physical and mental health	£1,973.76
Standing Tall Support	Chesterfield	Significant increase in cases over past 18 months. Funding will enable more support to be available for women who have left domestic abuse relationships and want to make a lasting change to their future and future relationships.	£2,000.00
Umbrellas Cosy Hub	Chesterfield	Addressing an increase in demand for computer classes and support – particularly older people who are struggling to keep in contact with family/friends and to register Covid-19 testing kits	£828.00
Empowering Health CIC	Amber Valley	Provides support network for carers/care providers who have been placed under exceptional pressure in current circumstances, and specifically provides care cover for these unpaid carers to allow	£1,960.00

		them to engage in other forms of activity	
Methodist Homes Association	Amber Valley	Alfreton Friendship Club for people aged 60-90 who have felt more vulnerable and isolated through the pandemic	£2,000.00
Care Farming Development CIC	Derbyshire Dales	Therapeutic activities with animals and nature to reduce social isolation caused by the pandemic. Funding to allow smaller groups to encourage people to attend who are anxious.	£2,000.00
Chesterfield and North Eastern Derbyshire Chinese Elders Group	Chesterfield and North East	Support to older Chinese community who have encountered increased racism alongside being scared to leave their homes. Increasing activities to reduce social isolation	£1,179.14
Area 51 Martial Arts & Tricking Academy CIC	Bolsover	Increased in demand for service after covid and more families who need the activity are unable to afford aspects of the sessions due to the pandemic. Targeted sessions for children and young people to increase physical activity, mental health, isolation and young people who are now being home educated. 1.1 lessons for SEN or low confidence children,	£2,000
North Derbyshire Refugee Support Group	Chesterfield, Bolsover, Derbyshire Dales, High Peak	Support to refugee families who have experienced low mental health due to bereavement of family members abroad/access to vaccinations. Support for carers and elderly by Arabic speakers to support those individuals and their carers. Increase in physical activity provision for women to support social interaction	£2,000
Arena Community	Erewash	Food support to people who are either self isolating or those who are in crisis. Increased demand on the service due to covid. In particular those in insecure, low income jobs.	£2,000
Deaf-initely Women	Derbyshire Wide	Support for the deaf community across Derbyshire who have been particularly isolated and not able to access information or channels of support during the pandemic	£2,000

Paltrerton Residents Association	Chesterfield	Community based physical activity support to those classed as 'clinically extremely vulnerable' to improve fitness and improve social interaction	£2,000
New Mills Youth and Community CIC	High Peak	Community clothing service for the community including school uniforms and interview clothes. Increase in demand since COVID/Furlough and loss of jobs	£2,000
Total for approval			£27,890.90

7. Implications

7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

8. Background Papers

8.1 [Update on Covid-19 Emergency Fund – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member Committee report](#)

8.2 [Establishing a Public Health Emergency Fund to support the response to Covid-19 – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member Committee Report.](#)

8.3 [Update on Covid-19 Emergency Fund – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member report \(February 2021\)](#)

8.4 [Update on Covid-19 Emergency Fund – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member report \(March 2021\)](#)

8.5 [Update on Covid-19 Emergency Fund – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member Report \(3 June 2021\)](#)

8.6 [Update on Covid-19 Community Response Fund – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member Report \(13 January 2022\)](#)

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1- Implications.

10. Recommendation(s)

That the Cabinet Member:

- a) Notes the allocation of the Public Health Covid-19 Community Response Fund for the period (1 January 2022 – 31 March 2022), which totals £27,890.90

- b) Agrees to continue to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to approve awards of no more than £2,000 to individual organisations.
- c) Agrees to receive details of further recipient organisations on a quarterly basis.

11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 11.1 The Cabinet Member is required to review the allocations to the Covid-19 Emergency Fund to date.
- 11.2 Continuing to provide delegated authority to the Director of Public Health for grant allocations will ensure that the grants are issued in a timely manner to groups and organisations throughout the pandemic.
- 11.3 Quarterly update reports to the Cabinet Member will provide a timely review of the activity approved by the fund.

12. Is it necessary to waive the call in period?

- 12.1 No

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Appendix 1

Implications

Financial

- 1.1 The overall value of the Public Health Covid-19 Community Response Fund is £0.100m and to date £0.066m has been awarded to Derbyshire organisations. Funding has been met from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund for the grants summarised in this report.
- 1.2 For 2021-22, based on allocations carried forward from 2020-21 and new allocations received in 2021-22, there is £23.000m available from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund.

Legal

- 2.1 The Council's Financial Regulations allow grants of up to £0.100m to organisations to be approved by Cabinet Member. The Council's Constitution allows for Cabinet Members to delegate authority to officers to undertake the powers afforded to them by the Constitution. The Council's standard grant agreement shall be used to set out the terms and conditions for which the grants are made, which provides for clawback of funding in certain circumstances and shall also provide that the Council is not liable for any employment liabilities

Human Resources

- 3.1 The funding will enable local providers to deliver projects and services. Derbyshire County Council accepts no employment or future redundancy liability, with all employment and related matters to be managed by the providers.