



**FOR PUBLICATION**

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**Thursday, 8 September 2022**

**Report of the Director - Public Health**

**Grant funding for provision of trauma informed practice training**  
(Cabinet Member for Health and Communities)

**1. Divisions Affected**

1.1 County-wide

**2. Key Decision**

2.1 This is not a Key Decision

**3. Purpose**

3.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval to utilise the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) to:

- a) Grant fund Derbyshire Mind to lead the development and provision of systemwide support and training for services working with residents in Derbyshire to have trauma-informed conversations that recognise the impact of trauma and how residents can be supported to engage in health protecting and health promoting behaviours, including minimising disease transmission. Work will start October 2022 and run to March 2024, with grant funding expended by March 2023, at a cost of £0.495m with funding coming from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund.

## **4. Information and Analysis**

- 4.1 Trauma is defined as a response to discrete or prolonged circumstance which at some point is experienced as an uncontrollable serious threat to physical or psychological wellbeing, and, which at some point overwhelms emotional resources.
- 4.2 Trauma and adversity in childhood, such as experiencing domestic violence, abuse or neglect, and substance misuse or mental health difficulties in the household, can impact lifelong health and wellbeing outcomes. Experiencing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) is linked to an increased risk of physical health problems, mental health difficulties, violence, and barriers to healthy attachment.
- 4.3 Experiencing trauma in childhood can make it more difficult for residents to engage in health protecting and health promoting behaviours such as accessing vaccinations, self-isolating, managing Covid-19 restrictions (itself a traumatic event), and is associated with health harming behaviours such as high-risk drinking, smoking and drug use. A 2021 study in Wales found Covid-19 vaccine hesitancy is three times more likely for those who have experienced four or more types of childhood trauma, and linked experiences of trauma with low trust in Covid-19 health information.
- 4.4 Childhood trauma is common. In 2020, The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) estimated that one in five adults had experienced at least one form of abuse in childhood.
- 4.5 Some types of childhood trauma have increased during Covid-19. Through the Department for Education Vulnerable Young People Survey, more local authorities are reporting an increase in complexity of Childrens Social Care cases, and rising numbers of cases involving suspected domestic abuse. More children and young people will have been affected by the death of a family member or of someone important to them due to Covid-19. In the 2021 Derbyshire Youth Wellbeing Survey (My Life My View) of students in years 8 to 11, 16% of respondents reported they had experienced the death of someone important to them within the last 12 months.
- 4.6 Trauma in adulthood is also common. Studies have shown that trauma occurring between 18 and 64 years of age may have a greater impact on current health in adults, over traumatic events experienced in childhood. Adult traumas included in this study included having a spouse or child die or being in a disaster.

- 4.7 Currently there are additional pressures on many households due to the cost-of-living crisis. Poorer households are likely to feel the biggest impact and increasing financial pressures will negatively impact mental health and wellbeing for some.
- 4.8 Evidence shows systems and organisations can unintentionally retraumatise adults and children who have experienced trauma. For example, by asking people to retell their story, labelling, leaving people feeling like a number, lack of choice in support or treatment, lack of feedback opportunities. Relationships within systems can also do this, through for example failure to ensure emotional safety or non-collaborative approaches.
- 4.9 This report requests funding for Derbyshire Mind to lead and develop the provision of systemwide support and training for services and organisations working with residents in Derbyshire to have trauma-informed conversations that recognise the impact of trauma and how residents can be supported to engage in health protecting and health promoting behaviours, including minimising disease transmission.
- 4.10 In July 2022, a post within the Public Health Team will be established to develop a systemwide approach to trauma informed practice which supports residents to adopt health protecting and health promoting behaviours. This role will work closely with Derbyshire Mind to inform the development of the systemwide training and support offer.
- 4.11 Funding will be allocated to Derbyshire Mind as a grant payment. Derbyshire Mind is a well-established local charity with over 50 years of experience of delivering mental health support to people in Derby and Derbyshire. The organisation is also part of a federated network of over 100 Local Minds across the country, so can draw on a wide range of experience, best practice and innovation in awareness raising, mental health services, and support. Derbyshire Mind provides unique value by utilising the Mind "brand" as an engagement tool, as Mind services are well known as trusted and high quality.
- 4.12 Derbyshire residents recognise Derbyshire Mind as an organisation which increases confidence to access support, and for local organisations it provides assurance that they are working with a trusted partner. Derbyshire Mind work collaboratively with Derbyshire people, statutory colleagues and other voluntary and community sector organisations and groups to ensure that support is based in the community and developed in line with the principles of co-production. The organisation is well embedded and respected within Derbyshire and is connected to the developing Integrated Care System structures,

through membership of the VCSE Alliance and Derby and Derbyshire All Age Mental Health, Learning Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance.

- 4.13 Derbyshire Mind will develop, monitor, and evaluate a systemwide approach, including delivery of actions such as workshops, engagement events, organisational development and training across the system and gain feedback from services to ascertain impact. Learning will be shared to inform future activity.
- 4.14 This approach will contribute to the Council Plan priority of resilient, healthy, and safe communities, and support the Adult Social Care and Health Service Plan Public Health priority to work with partners to enable individuals and communities to lead healthier, happier lives.

## **5. Consultation**

- 5.1 Not required

## **6. Alternative Options Considered**

- 6.1 Do nothing - this option risks delaying the development of trauma informed approaches to address this need and does not maximise the use of specific one-off funding that can support this work.
- 6.2 Competitive procurement process - this option is not possible within the timescales for the Contain Outbreak Management Fund and alternative resources are not available within the Public Health Grant.

## **7. Implications**

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

## **8. Background Papers**

- 8.1 [Associations between adverse childhood experiences, attitudes towards COVID-19 restrictions and vaccine hesitancy: a cross-sectional study | BMJ Open](#)
- 8.2 [Child abuse extent and nature, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)
- 8.3 [My Life My View 2021 \(derbyshire.gov.uk\)](#)

- 8.4 [Vulnerable children and young people survey: summary of returns waves 1 to 22 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)
- 8.5 Kraus, Shaw & Cairney. 2004. A descriptive epidemiology of lifetime trauma. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15584789/>
- 8.6 Wigglesworth. 2021. Trauma-informed working.

## **9 Appendices**

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

## **10 Recommendation(s)**

That Cabinet approve the usage of the Contain Outbreak Management Fund to:

- a) Grant fund Derbyshire Mind to lead the development and provision of systemwide support and training for services working with residents in Derbyshire to have trauma-informed conversations that recognise the impact of trauma and how residents can be supported to engage in health protecting and health promoting behaviours, including minimising disease transmission. Work will start October 2022 and run to March 2024, with grant funding expended by March 2023, at a cost of £0.495m with funding coming from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund.

## **11 Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

- 11.1 To support services working with residents in Derbyshire to have trauma-informed conversations that recognise the impact of trauma and how residents can be supported to engage in health protecting and health promoting behaviours, including minimising disease transmission.

## **12 Is it necessary to waive the call in period?**

- 12.1 No

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**Implications**

**Financial**

- 1.1 The grant funding of £0.495m detailed in this report will be met from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund.

**Legal**

- 2.1 The Council has power to provide grants under the general power of competence set out in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.
- 2.2 The Council's Financial Regulations state that grants above £0.100m require Cabinet authorisation.
- 2.3 The Council's standard grant agreement shall be used to set out the terms and conditions for which the grant is 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 grant funding allows a local provider to deliver a project. Derbyshire County Council accepts no employment or future redundancy liability with all employment and related matters to be managed by the provider.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 4.1 The approach will contribute to the Council Plan priority of resilient, healthy, and safe communities, and support the Adult Social Care and Health Service Plan Public Health priority to work with partners to enable individuals and communities to lead healthier, happier lives.