



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

21 SEPTEMBER 2022

Report of the Director - Public Health

Use of Contain Outbreak Management Fund to strengthen support services in Derbyshire

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 County-wide.

2. Key Decision

2.1 This is not a Key Decision.

Purpose

2.2 This report asks the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities to:

- a) Extend existing projects, previously funded through Contain Outbreak Management Fund for further periods to 31 March 2023 to maximise use of this additional funding to support the ongoing response to the pandemic.
- b) Agree the funding allocations as set out in section 3.4 of this report.

3. Information and Analysis

3.1 The Government has confirmed that Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) can be used to fund activity in the 2022/23 financial year. A number of projects initially funded by the COMF, or one of the other Covid-related grants received by the Authority, can be extended to maximise the use of the funding whilst still ensuring the Authority has a

strategic reserve and unallocated funding should new or additional activity require to be funded.

3.2 The following projects, outlined in section 3.4 below, have previously been approved by the Public Health Senior Management Team, or where appropriate Cabinet Member. These projects can be extended to cover the period to 31 March 2023 as there are established relationships with partner organisations and referral pathways already in place and the projects are operational.

3.3 Monitoring arrangements are in place for all projects. Current monitoring is light touch due to the speed at which some of these grants have been set up and to reduce the burden on providers who are supporting multiple projects. However, colleagues working with these organisations are confident from conversations and meetings that projects are progressing well with no significant issues of concern.

3.4 The projects to be extended are set out in the table below:

Project	Previous funding source/ term	Additional cost to fund to 31 March 2023	Organisation to be funded
Derbyshire Law Centre - support people to self-isolate in secure housing (Cover the North and Centre of the County)	£0.051m (Sept 2020 – March 2021) plus £42,000 (April -Sept 2021 (£0.093m in total) previously paid from 'Food and Essential Supplies Grant' for 6 months. £0.042m (Oct 2021 – March 2022) from Contain Fund.	Up to £0.042m	Derbyshire Law Centre
Extend specialist eviction related support work with Derby Law Centre (cover the south of the County)	£0.022m (Sept 2020-March 2021) plus an additional £0.022m (April 2021 – Sept 2021) (£0.044m in total) already paid from 'Food and Essential Supplies Grant. £0.022m (Oct 2021 – March 2022) from Contain Fund.	Up to £0.022m	Derby Law Centre

Winter rough sleeping	In 2020/21 Public Health provided £0.054m funding for an onsite support worker team at Mount Cook Plus an additional £0.050m from the Food and Essential Supplies Grant to meet basic needs of those in housing crisis. £0.054m for Winter 2021/22 from Contain Fund.	£0.054m	North East Derbyshire District Council
Rural Hardship Fund to mirror the Household Support Grant where people are not eligible	£0.012m (September 2020 to date) paid from the Emergency Welfare Assistance DEFRA	£0.020m	Rural Action Derbyshire
TOTAL		£0.138m	

4. Consultation

4.1 No consultation required.

5. Alternative Options Considered

- 5.1 Do nothing: Risk that demand will outstrip resources, once existing funding runs out, or that staff will leave the organisation as contracts come to an end.
- 5.2 Consider strengthening other providers: Providing funding to other non-specialist providers via a different procurement route carries the risk that individuals living in complex situations who require expert advice and support may not be managed by sufficiently experienced providers.

6. Implications

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

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Report: Use of the Contain Outbreak Management Fund to provide additional funding to Derbyshire Law Centre and Derby Law Centre for Specialist Advice
- 7.2 Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Report: Use of the Contain Outbreak Management Fund to provide homelessness winter provision support

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

9. Recommendation(s)

That the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities:

- a) Extend existing projects, previously funded through Contain Outbreak Management Fund for further periods to 31 March 2023 to maximise use of this additional funding to support the ongoing response to the pandemic.
- b) Agree the funding allocations as set out in section 3.4 of this report.

10. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 10.1 Offer longer-term capacity to provide support that will enable people in Derbyshire to have the confidence or resources to manage the impact of Covid-19.

11. Is it necessary to waive the call-in period?

- 11.1 No

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Implications

Financial

- 1.1 Since the start of the pandemic, the Council has received a number of different grants to support the response to Covid-19, one of which is managed by Public Health. For 2022/23, based on allocations carried forward from 2021/22, there is £17.627m available from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund. A sum of £0.100m will be allocated from Contain funding to fund the activity outlined in this paper.

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 Cabinet agreed the overall profile of spend when it met on 4 January 2021 and that delegated authority will be given to the Director of Public Health and Cabinet Member for Health and Communities to develop an implementation plan to co-ordinate the delivery of the different workstreams described in this report. Where appropriate additional approvals from Cabinet Member would be sought in line with the Council's Constitution and Financial Regulations.
- 2.3 The Council's Financial Regulations allow grants of up to £0.100m to organisations to be approved by Cabinet Member.
- 2.4 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

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 The recommendations in this paper support delivery of the following priorities for the next year in the Council Plan:

- Continued to deliver the ongoing Covid-19 response and recovery in relation to health protection, alongside wider partnership action to tackle health inequalities
- Worked with partners to promote positive mental wellbeing and improve support for local people, with a particular focus on children and young people at both school and in the community