



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

15 May 2023

Report of the Director - Public Health

**Use of NHS Integrated Care Board Funding to strengthen Covid
Community Champion Forum and Social Connectedness inequalities
work in Derbyshire**

(Cabinet Member for Health and Communities)

1. Divisions Affected

- a) County-wide.

2. Key Decision

- a) This is not a key decision.

3. Purpose

3.1 This report seeks approval from the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities approval to utilise £0.071m received from the Integrated Care Board to strengthen the Covid-19 Community Champion and forum work in Derbyshire localities until 31 December 2023 and to approve the allocation of part of the funding as follows:

- a) a grant award of £23,666 to Links CVS for the Derbyshire BAME Forum activity
- b) a grant award of £23,666 to Our Vision Our Future (OVOF) for work with adults with a learning disability and/or autism.

3.2 The Cabinet Member is also asked to note the intention (subject to the necessary approvals being obtained in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations) to transfer £23,666 to Adult Social Care to be allocated

to the Dementia Support Service for work with adults with dementia and their carers/support.

4. Information and Analysis

- 4.1 The ICB Senior Leadership Team approved funding in November 2022 to support the Covid Community Champions Network and Forum to improve awareness of Post Covid Syndrome and increase equity of access to related services. The following groups were identified as those where more insight was needed and who would benefit from more targeted work to address other inequalities:
- BAME communities,
 - People from deprived communities,
 - People with a learning disability and/or autism,
 - Deaf people, those with hearing loss or visual impairment
 - People with a prior diagnosis of dementia
 - People with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
 - Homelessness people
 - Refugees and Asylum Seekers
 - Gypsy, Traveller and Roma Communities
 - Individuals living with a substance misuse
 - Individuals from the Criminal Justice System
- 4.2 The Integrated Care Board (ICB) recommended the adoption of a system approach with support provided from the existing Covid Community Champions Networks, who already work to address health inequalities linked to Covid vaccination uptake.
- 4.3 An agreement was reached with Public Health to utilise a proportion of the allocated funding for this programme towards the work of the existing Covid Community Champions Networks and Forum and driving forward on a communications strategy linked to reaching out to those groups of people where evidence supports a low uptake of the Post Covid Syndrome service in Derbyshire.
- 4.4 In March 2021 the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities approved the launch of the Covid-19 Community Partners Scheme; the scheme was subsequently extended for a further 12 months in December 2021. The aim of the scheme was to ensure that consistent, timely and accurate Covid-19 information was cascaded at a community level to support Derbyshire residents throughout the pandemic. Voluntary sector partners across Derbyshire co-ordinated the partner programme on behalf of Public Health by facilitating the setting up of district/borough Covid connector networks, recruiting and training a network of volunteers and leading the dissemination of key messages to

communities through a variety of mechanisms. This project offers a valuable opportunity to link with residents in a meaningful way and will support clear dissemination of Covid-19 messages. There is an opportunity to build on the network developed to share information about other public health issues, such as the importance of flu vaccinations and advice regarding cost-of-living pressures and Long-Covid. This complementary information will enable communities and individuals to have increased resilience to Covid-19.

The ICB monies will enable more paid community partners to join the Derbyshire Community Champions Forum and networks until 31 December 2023. This will expand the reach of the Forum, grow the approach and sustain levels of activity.

- 4.5 The eight Derbyshire localities have been delivering the Community Messaging/Champions/Connectors scheme since inception (March 2021). The partners below have been identified as representing groups that experience additional health inequalities, may not have benefited from our current community messaging and champions programme, and are the proposed recipients of the NHS ICB funding:

4.6

Organisation	Recipient Organisation	Community target group	Amount
Dementia Support Service	Adult Social Care Commissioned Service, amendment to current contract.	Derbyshire adults with dementia and their carers/support	£23,666.66 (internal transfer)
Derbyshire BAME Forum	Hosted by Links CVS	Derbyshire Black and Minority Ethnic adults	£23,666.66 (grant)
Our Vision Our Future.	Our Vision Our Future (OVOF)	Derbyshire adults with learning difficulties/autism	£23,666.66 (grant)
TOTAL			£71,000.00

- 4.7 A Protocol 9 business case will be submitted in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations and a contract variation will be required before the funding of £0.024m is transferred to the current provider of the Dementia Support Service
- 4.8 Specifically, the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities is asked to approve two grant awards of £0.024m each to the BAME Forum, which is hosted by Links CVS and to Our Vision our Future.

5. Alternative Options Considered

5.1 Alternative option 1: Do not use the funding received from Derby and Derbyshire ICB:

This is not a preferred option. The funding will provide an opportunity to widen the membership of the Community Forum and strengthen understanding of, and messaging to, communities' groups representing those that experience additional health inequalities.

6. Implications

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

7. Background Papers

- a) 2 December 2021 - [Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Report: Extension to COVID Community Champions scheme utilising the Contain Outbreak Management Fund](#)

8. Appendices

- a) Appendix 1 – Implications

9. Recommendation(s)

That the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities:

- 9.1 Approves the utilisation of £0.071m received from the Integrated Care Board to strengthen the Covid-19 Community Champion and forum work in Derbyshire localities until 31 December 2023 and to approve the allocation of part of the funding as follows:
 - (a) a grant award of £23,666 to Links CVS for the Derbyshire BAME Forum activity
 - (b) a grant award of £23,666 to Our Vision Our Future (OVOF) for work with adults with a learning disability and/or autism.
- 9.2 Notes the intention (subject to the necessary approvals being obtained in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations) to transfer £23,666 to Adult Social Care to be allocated to the Dementia Support Service for work with adults with dementia and their carers/support.

Implications

Financial

- 1.1 The £0.071m funding will come from Derby and Derbyshire ICB.
- 1.2 The allocation of funding is noted in 4.6 and will be paid through a mixture of grant awards and contract variations in line with the council's financial regulations.

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 below £0.100m require Cabinet Member 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. This includes conditions for clawback of funding in certain circumstances.
- 2.4 A Business Case under Protocol 9 of the Council's Financial Regulations and a contract variation will be required before any funds can be applied via internal transfer to Adult Social Care for the Dementia Support Service.

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

- 4.1 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