



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

11 December 2023

Report of the Director - Public Health

Vaccination Engagement Creswell and South Normanton (Covid-19 and Flu)

(Cabinet Member for Health and Communities)

1. Divisions Affected

Bolsover North, South Normanton and Pinxton

2. Key Decision

2.1 This is not a Key Decision

3. Purpose

3.1 To seek Cabinet Member approval for £15,000 to be granted to Bolsover Community and Voluntary Service from funding received from the Vaccine Operational Cell (part of Derby and Derbyshire NHS Integrated Care Board) for the purpose of vaccine engagement work in Creswell and South Normanton.

4. Information and Analysis

4.1 Funding was received by Derbyshire County Council's Public Health team from the Integrated Care Board (ICB) for projects which would tackle vaccine inequalities, in particular for seasonal vaccinations including COVID-19. Creswell and Hodthorpe and South Normanton West had lower COVID-19 vaccination uptake across all doses at the start of the vaccination programme, as seen below:

Area	1 st Dose	2 nd Dose	Booster or 3 rd Dose
United Kingdom (August 2022)	93.6%	88.2%	70.2%
Derbyshire (August 2023)	87.7%	85.0%	71.4%
Creswell and Hodthorpe MSOA (August 2023)	83.0%	79.2%	65.2%
South Normanton West (August 2023)	84.2%	80.9%	63.5%

There has also been a decline in influenza vaccination uptake across all cohorts with last winter seeing a particularly lower than expected uptake within the 2-3year old cohort.

Vaccinations such as COVID-19 and influenza prevent serious illness, hospitalisation and death. They can also have a positive impact on education and workplace attendance and the wider health and social care system. Increasing vaccinations for those eligible protects the individual and those around them. National guidance recommends that everyone eligible is offered a vaccination and an improvement on the uptake rate seen in 2022-23 should be seen for this winter.

However the reasons behind the decision not to have a vaccination can be difficult to ascertain fully. SAGE (the Government's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies) uses a model of 3C'S of vaccine hesitancy which suggests addressing barriers including convenience, complacency (perceiving the risk of disease as low) and confidence (both in the vaccine and professionals). Engagement by trusted voices and partners within South Normanton and Creswell can help understand the reasons behind lower uptake of influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations. Once this information is gathered this can inform joint working to address any barriers faced by a community with low vaccination uptake.

Bolsover CVS will use the funding to employ an engagement worker who will work with key 'trusted' voices within the community. The work will identify the trusted leaders within the community and support them to increase their own knowledge and confidence when discussing vaccinations with the wider community. A network of champions and advocates will be created. The engagement worker will also understand what the barriers are for seasonal influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations through focus groups and existing community events enabling action to take place to address them by working with Public Health and the ICB.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 No Public consultation required

6. Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 Do nothing – the Integrated Care Board have given the funding for Public Health to address lower vaccine rates by doing nothing we would not be fulfilling action agreed with partners. In addition doing nothing would not address lower vaccine uptake and potentially increase mortality and morbidity.
- 6.2 Do something different – Bolsover CVS are best placed to deliver community engagement within South Normanton and Creswell, using the Public Health team would not be considered due to the time commitment needed for the engagement work including building up relationships within the community.

7. Implications

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

8. Background Papers

- 8.1 COVID-19 uptake data :
<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/interactive-map/vaccinations>
- 8.2 SAGE 3C'S model of vaccine hesitancy <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/coronavirus-information-councils/covid-19-service-information/covid-19-vaccinations/behavioural-insights/resources/3Cmodel-vaccine-hesitancy>

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

10. Recommendation(s)

The Cabinet Member for Health and Communities is asked to:

- a) approve £15,000 to be awarded via a grant agreement to Bolsover CVS for the purpose of vaccine engagement work in Creswell and South Normanton for a period of 6 months.

11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 11.1 It is recommended to grant Bolsover CVS £15,000 to enable understanding of lower vaccine uptake in Creswell and South Normanton which will support wider work to tackle vaccine inequalities. This will also ensure the funding given to Public Health is maximised

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

- 12.1 No

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Implications

Financial

Financial

- 1.1 The proposed funding uses funds transferred from the Vaccine Operational Cell (part of the Derby and Derbyshire NHS Integrated Care Board) to Derbyshire County Council. This funding has a specific use for community engagement work related to vaccine inequalities.

Legal

- 2.1 The Council has power to provide grants to voluntary and community sector organisations 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 up to £0.100m require Cabinet Member authorisation.
- 2.3 The Council's standard grant agreement will be used to set out the terms and conditions for which the grants are made and will include terms that provide for clawback of funding in certain circumstances and will also state that the Council is not liable for any employment liabilities or hazards arising to third parties due to the nature of the products for which the funding is intended.

Human Resources

- 3.1 The Council accepts no employment or future redundancy liability within the conditions of the grants awarded, with all employment and related matters to be managed by the grant recipients. This is also stipulated in the grant agreement documentation.

Information Technology

- 4.1 There are no Information Technology implications identified with the proposed.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 Continue to deliver the ongoing COVID-19 response and recovery in relation to health protection alongside wider partnership action to tackle health inequalities, contributing towards Council priorities including Resilient, healthy, and safe communities and All people in Derbyshire are enabled to live healthy lives.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

- 7.1 None identified