



**FOR PUBLICATION**

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES**

**11 March 2024**

**Report of the Director - Public Health**

**Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant for  
BAME Forum**

**(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 To seek Cabinet Member approval to award £8,000 funding to Chesterfield Links CVS, to support with engagement to understand the barriers to accessing substance use treatment and recovery services of individuals from ethnic minority backgrounds or ethnic minorities groups - for a 12-month period from 19 March 2024.

3.2 To note that the grant funding is from the reprofiling of an underspend on the year 2 (2023/24) Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant (SSMTRG) .

**4. Information and Analysis**

4.1 In December 2021, the Government launched [From Harm To Hope: A 10-year drugs plan](#) to cut crime and save lives. The purpose of this

strategy is to tackle the challenge and burden that substance misuse places upon our communities by breaking drug supply chains, delivering a world-class treatment and recovery system, bringing about a generational shift in the demand for drugs and establishing effective partnerships across systems to provide a more cohesive approach to substance misuse related challenges.

- 4.2 Evidence shows that individuals in receipt of alcohol and drug treatment are more likely to recover from alcohol and drug dependence if they can access supportive arrangements alongside treatment, which encourage and improve employability, settled accommodation, strong relationships, self-esteem, purposeful activities, and healthy diet/nutrition.
- 4.3 Data from the [Joined Up Derbyshire Mental Health Needs Assessment](#) reports a wide range of issues have been reported that act as barriers to people from Black and Minority Ethnic groups accessing health services. The barriers to accessing services include stigmatisation; limited knowledge of how to access available support; fear of discrimination and distrust in healthcare professionals and services.
- 4.4 To support the Harm to Hope Strategy, in 2022, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) allocated £0.812m Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Funding (SSMTRG) to Derbyshire County Council for the first year. In 2023, the funding for year two (2) allocated to Derbyshire County Council by OHID was £1.575m. However, some of the initiatives originally approved have created an underspend of SSMTRG funding in year two (2), the current financial year (2023/24), so to address this, substance misuse leads met with commissioned providers to consider how the underspent funding could be reprofiled to have the most impact locally.
- 4.5 The Adult Integrated Substance Use Treatment and Recovery Service, run as Derbyshire Recovery Partnership, have made a commitment in the new contract commencing 01 April 2024 to reach vulnerable groups and reduce the unmet need across the County. Derbyshire Recovery Partnership have seen a consistently low number of individuals from diverse groups over the past three (3) years and the following table highlights this:

<b>Ethnicity</b> (rolling 12 months)	<b>2023/24 (end Q3)</b>	<b>2022/23 (end Q4)</b>	<b>2021/22 (end Q4)</b>
White - British	4126	3773	3733
White - Other	63	63	46
Mixed	42	39	25

Asian or Asian British (Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, or other Asian)	24	15	22
Black or Black British (Black Caribbean, Black African, or other Black)	16	13	7
Chinese	0	0	0
Other	5	65	44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4276</b>	<b>3968</b>	<b>3877</b>

<b>Ethnicity</b> (rolling 12 months)	<b>2023/24 (end Q3)</b>	<b>2022/23 (end Q4)</b>	<b>2021/22 (end Q4)</b>
White - British	96.5%	95.1%	96.3%
White - Other	1.5%	1.6%	1.2%
Mixed	1.0%	1.0%	0.6%
Asian or Asian British (Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, or other Asian)	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%
Black or Black British (Black Caribbean, Black African, or other Black)	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%
Chinese	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.1%	1.6%	1.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

4.6 This proposed funding will help to improve the understanding of the stigma and discrimination experienced by people harmed by substance use.

4.7 The Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Forum supports the development of an infrastructure that enables BME community groups to be actively engaged with the Council and provide feedback on policy and service developments. In 2006, Adult Care commissioned Links (the Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Council for Voluntary Service and Action Limited) to help the development of a sustainable method for consulting and engaging with Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities in Derbyshire. The programme of work focused on the development of a BME forum covering the county. The programme included capacity building work with established BME community groups, and the identification and empowerment of new and emerging BME communities.

4.8 The following groups are supported by the BME Forum Derbyshire:

- African & Caribbean Community Association
- Asian Association Chesterfield & Derbyshire
- Chesterfield Filipino Community Association
- Chesterfield Muslim Association
- Chesterfield and North East Muslim Women's Group
- Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Chinese Elders Group
- Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group
- North Derbyshire refugee Support Group
- Polonia Chesterfield
- Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Ukrainian Support Group
- Chesterfield Senegambia Association

4.9 Derbyshire BME Forum supports the development of an infrastructure that enables the culturally diverse BME across Derbyshire to be actively engaged with Derbyshire County Council and provide feedback on policy and service developments.

4.10 The engagement activity coordinated and led by the BME Forum is intended to provide insight and analysis into the following:

- How substance use services are currently meeting the needs of ethnic communities?
- How peer educators and positive role models can be utilised to raise the awareness of substance use services?
- How social, cultural media and networks can be used to reinforce messages around harm reduction and accessing substance use service?
- Feedback in relation to the accessibility of information and messages
- Feedback on provision and support with accessing a variety of information, oral, visual, and written messages in appropriate language.

## **5. Alternative Options Considered**

5.1 Preferred option – approve reprofiling of the underspend from year two (2) of the SSMTRG funding and provide £8,000 funding to Chesterfield Links CVS

5.2 Return the underspend. This is not an acceptable alternative as it indicates to OHID that Derbyshire requires a lower level of funding and disadvantages Derbyshire residents.

5.3 Consider allocating the SSMTRG funding underspend in a different manner: this is not an ideal alternative as the allocation of funding was agreed in collaboration with the different service providers following

identification of gaps in service provision and meets the coordination and commissioning requirements that the SSMTRG funding brings.

## **6. Implications**

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

## **7. Background Papers**

7.1 None

## **8. Appendices**

8.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

## **9. Recommendation(s)**

That the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities:

a) Approves the award of £8,000 funding to Chesterfield Links CVS for a 12 month period from 11 March 2024 to provide insight and analysis of the barriers of ethnic minority groups to accessing Substance Use and Recovery Services and raise awareness of this important service provision.

b) Notes that the grant funding is from the reprofiling of an underspend on the year 2 (2023/24) Supplementary Substance Misuse and Treatment Grant as outlined in this report.

## **10. Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

10.1 Chesterfield Links CVS, Derbyshire BME Forum can provide the support, engagement and insight with ethnic minority groups through the development of their infrastructure as outlined in this report.

10.2 Chesterfield Links CVS meet the criteria for SSMTRG Funding to provide insight and engagement to increase the numbers of individual ethnic minority groups in accessing substance misuse services

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

11.1 No

Report Ellen Langton,  
Author: Tanya Nolan,  
Tracey Simpkin

Contact Ellen.Langton@derbyshire.gov.uk,  
details: Tanya.Nolan@derbyshire.gov.uk,  
Tracey.Simpkin@derbyshire.gov.uk

## **Implications**

### **Financial**

- 1.1 The initiative will be funded from the reprofiling of underspend from year two (2) of the Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant (SSMTRG). The funding awarded, at a cost of £8,000, will cover a 12 month period from 11th March 2024.

### **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 allow grants of up to £0.100m to organisations to be approved by Cabinet Member.
- 2.3 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.

### **Information Technology**

- 4.1 There are no IT implications.

### **Equalities Impact**

- 5.1 In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and sex.

### **Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 6.1 As a service designed to support people experiencing problems stemming from drug or alcohol use, this initiative supports the new drugs strategy (From Harm to Hope, 2021) and priorities included in the

Council Plan: Resilient, Healthy and Safe Communities and Effective Early Help for Individuals and Communities.