

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES** held on 5 November 2020 virtually on MS Teams

**PRESENT**

Councillor C Hart – Cabinet Member

Also in attendance: Councillor D Allen

**43/20** **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities held on 17 September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

**44/20** **PERFORMANCE AND BUDGET MONITORING FORECAST**  
**OUTTURN 2020/2021 QUARTER 2** The Cabinet Member was provided with an update of the Council Plan performance position and the revenue budget position of the Health and Communities portfolio for 2020/2021 up to the end of September 2020 (Quarter 2).

The report showed that progress was "good" for all of the Council Plan deliverables led by the portfolio. After additional Covid-19 funding, the budget forecast position for 2020/2021 was an underspend of £3.077m, with forecasted savings of £0.216m by the year end. The key areas of success and for consideration were listed within the report, with further information on the portfolio's performance included at Appendix A.

The net controllable budget for the portfolio was £10.138m, with an additional £2.474m Covid-19 funding being added to give a total of £12.612m. The Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement prepared for quarter 2 indicated a forecast year-end underspend of £0.603m. This would be increased by the use of £2.474m of additional Covid-19 funding giving an underspend of £3.077m. These were detailed within the report.

Budget reduction targets totalled £0.216m for the year. These were detailed within the report, as were the growth items and one-off funding. Financial risks that could negatively impact on the portfolio were summarised:

<b>Service</b>	<b>Risk</b>	<b>Sensitivity* £m</b>	<b>Likelihood 1 = Low, 5 = High</b>
Service-wide	Covid-19 pressures – loss of fee income, increase in instances of Domestic Violence and Hate Crime, continuing increase in costs.	2.474	3
Coroners service	Accommodation at Chesterfield.	0.008	5
Coroners service	Increased costs of Case Management system.	0.060	5

\*Sensitivity represents the potential negative impact on the outturn position should the event occur.

Earmarked reserves totalled £9.704m.

**RESOLVED** - that the Cabinet Member (1) note the report; and

(2) consider whether there were any further actions that should be undertaken to improve the budget position moving forwards or to address performance, where it had not met the desired level.

**45/20**      **ACTION GRANTS PROGRAMME ROUND 8** The Cabinet Member was updated on the projects supported under round eight of the Community Activity and Community Safety Action Grants Programme. Approval was also sought to formerly close the scheme.

The Action Grant Programme ran for a period of two years from May 2018 until May 2020. Applicants were able to apply for three levels of funding across four grant areas covering youth activity, community safety, community activity and physical/sports activity and had to meet the selection criteria. The report provided an update on the applications received and approved, for both the Community Activity and Community Safety grants under round eight.

Community Activity Grants – 78 medium and large applications were received. Due to the small amount of funding available, round eight was extremely competitive, resulting in four applications, totalling £20,115, being approved. Further details of the applications and selection process were set out at Appendix A.

Community Safety Grants - five small grant applications were received. Four applications were approved totalling £1,869. Further details of the applications and selection process were set out at Appendix B. 10 medium and large grant applications were received with five being approved, totalling £23,804. Further details of the applications and selection process were set out at Appendix C.

A total of £62,500 was allocated over the life of the action grants programme for Community Safety medium and large applications. The total spend was £66,502, an overspend of £4,002 and which would be offset from the Community Safety small grants allocation which was underspent. This was approved by The Director of Finance and ICT on 28 July 2020.

Monitoring of the programme and take up of the different levels of grants as well as geographical coverage, had taken place on a regular basis to ensure equality of access across different communities in Derbyshire:

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Total supported small applications</b>	<b>Total supported medium and large applications</b>	<b>Total funding awarded</b>
Community Activity	392	13	£250,000
Community Safety	29	10	£80,714.05
Total	421	23	£330,714.05

The programme had been active for a total of two years and had awarded funding over eight scheduled rounds. The programme was no longer taking applications and it was recommended that remaining funds of £231,786 not committed from the Community Safety Grants scheme be returned to the General Reserve and the Action Grant Programme, for both Community Activity and Community Safety Grants, be formally closed. Physical Activity Grants were also no longer taking applications but Youth Grants had extended applications until the end of the year.

**RESOLVED** - that the Cabinet Member (1) note the four medium and large grants for Community Activity approved to the value of £20,115;

(2) note the four small grants and five medium and large grants for Community Safety approved to the value of £25,673;

(3) note the total programme spend to date of the Community Activity and Community Safety themes to the value of £330,714;

(4) approve the closure of the Community Activity and Community Safety themes; and

(5) approve the return of uncommitted funding of £231,786 to the General Reserve.

**46/20      PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 FUND – UPDATE** The Cabinet Member was given an update on organisations supported through the Public Health COVID19 fund. Approval was sought for allocating an additional £50,000 towards the fund.

The response to the COVID19 pandemic had seen many organisations across Derbyshire working to ensure the basic needs of the most vulnerable residents were met and it had become apparent that a number of community and voluntary sector organisations had insufficient resources to maintain current levels of response. In addition, the national shielding, social isolation and social distancing requirements had compelled many organisations to quickly adapt their service delivery model to operate within the guidance, often requiring additional resources.

The Cabinet Member had previously approved the establishment of a Public Health COVID19 Fund to support voluntary and community sector organisations in mitigating the impact of COVID19 on local communities, and work to improve the health and wellbeing of local populations. Funding of up to a maximum value of £2,000 was available for constituted groups and £250 for non-constituted groups.

The Fund was supported from the Public Health Grant and all applications needed to be linked to an existing Public Health work programme to allow the Public Health Emergency Fund to run concurrently with other corporate grant schemes, whilst retaining a clear focus on improving public health outcomes. Authority for approval of applications was delegated by the Cabinet Member to the Director of Public Health, with quarterly updates reported to Cabinet Member meetings.

To date, a total of 30 applications had been reviewed and approved for funding, initially by a panel comprising of an Assistant Director of Public Health and a Health Improvement Practitioner before ratification by the Director of Public Health. These were detailed in the report. The fund had an initial allocation of £50,000, with a total of £50,047 being awarded. It was therefore proposed that the fund was extended by a further £50,000 to be met from the Public Health Reserve.

**RESOLVED** - that the Cabinet Member (1) note the allocation of the Public Health COVID-19 fund to date;

(2) approve the extension of the fund by an additional £50,000;

(3) continue to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to approve awards of no more than £2,000 to individual organisations; and

(4) receive details of recipient organisations on a quarterly basis.

**47/20**      **IMPLEMENTATION OF MICROSOFT DYNAMICS** Approval was sought from the Cabinet Member to allocate funding for the implementation of Microsoft Dynamics software package to support the delivery of Test and Trace activities in response to COVID-19.

Public Health were leading the work in Derbyshire to prepare for potential outbreaks of coronavirus in the county and helping to contain any outbreaks as part of the national test and trace programme. The COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan set out the approach which involved working with partners to protect local residents. This involved partner organisations at every level from the government and the NHS through to the local district and borough councils, and the people who live and work in Derbyshire. This included monitoring data sent on a weekly basis from Public Health England about the number of new cases in Derbyshire.

Residents who were contacted were asked more in-depth questions about their movements and who they had been in contact with. A software system was required to capture the data, identify hotspot areas and help manage the workload. It would provide a much more efficient way of collating local information and assist the public health team build up a comprehensive picture of where transmissions were happening and make important links between cases. Benefits included:

- Management of complex cases and settings including 360° view;
- Manage the local action plan response;
- Capture symptom, test and movement data;
- Capture and process support requests from citizens in isolation;
- Automate tasks and activities;
- COVID-19 Data Analytics and Data Management;
- Reduce risk and time to value using proven technology used to support local and national response to COVID-19 and from a proven partner;
- Easily adapt to evolving requirements;
- Simplify data management challenges;
- Gain insights and predict trends in the local area.

Microsoft had designed and built a proof of concept (POC) solution to manage outbreak action plans and Test and Trace activities in response to COVID-19. Hitachi Solutions, who specialised in working with UK Local Authorities to leverage Microsoft Cloud technologies and were already supporting over 18 authorities with their COVID-19 response, had re-built the POC into a robust, production-ready solution.

The costs for the implementation of this software depended on the number of licenses required and this was broken down in the report. These costs would be met from the Public Health budget.

**RESOLVED** - that the Cabinet Member approve the allocation of funding up to a total value of £89,064.40 for the implementation of Microsoft Dynamics software package to support the delivery of Test and Trace activities in response to COVID-19.

#### **48/20      EMOTIONAL WELLBEING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE PROJECT**

Approval was sought from the Cabinet Member for the provision of grant funding of £12,000 to Men Talk for delivery of a project to support the emotional wellbeing of young people for a period of 1 year from 1 December 2020.

Mental health and emotional wellbeing remained a key public health priority. Covid-19 and the widening health inequalities gap had seen an increase of people experiencing emotional wellbeing issues and young people had been identified as a group at higher risk. Early identification and early intervention were essential to prevent symptoms from escalating and this aligned with national guidance and the Derbyshire Mental Health Prevention Framework.

Local charity Men Talk had developed an innovative idea for the supply of a digital wrist band to young people; that was based on engagement talks in secondary schools in Chesterfield and at Chesterfield College. The band contained an encrypted storage facility which the user could store personalised tools to help their emotional wellbeing. It could contain direct contact information to local services, including school nurses, hold online tools such as a safety plan or positive messages, and other personalised features such as a music playlist or personalised notes to help in times of anxiety or stress.

It was proposed that during the 1 year project, Men Talk would develop the product with support from a working group and related organisations, then roll out an engagement programme of talks to support the direct supply of the product to young people. This would be delivered at a minimum of four designated secondary schools or further education establishments in Derbyshire, targeted at young people aged 16 to 19. It had been widely reported that stress and anxiety levels were high amongst this cohort together with the additional uncertainty created by Covid-19. The approach would be evaluated to gauge the level of impact.

**RESOLVED** - that the Cabinet Member approve the provision of grant funding to Men Talk for delivery of a project to support the emotional wellbeing of young people, at a value of £20,000 per annum for a period of 1 year from 1 December 2020.

**49/20**      **MENTAL HEALTH FRIENDLY PROJECT** Approval was sought from the Cabinet Member for the provision of grant funding to Fuzzy Ducklings for delivery of a project to support the development of a mental health friendly project for a period of 2 years from 1 December 2020.

Covid-19 had exacerbated existing symptoms for many people who suffered with anxiety, stress or depression on a trip outside the home. Safe places and friendly faces might help overcome some of their anxieties. By linking with the existing Safe Places scheme run by Public Health, this would extend the number of safe spaces into private businesses and retail settings. It was proposed that a pilot scheme was initiated in Chesterfield, where foundation work had already taken place. In order for Chesterfield to become a “mental health friendly” place, a model had been developed that comprised 3 strands:

- Raising mental health awareness, addressing stigma, and promoting inclusivity;
- Developing a digital resource that will provide support to people by highlighting the location of safe spaces they can access if they feel unwell; and
- Engaging local business to play a role in improving mental health outcomes, though for example, adoption of staff training on mental health awareness.

The initial scheme was being overseen by Chesterfield Mental Health Network, a multi-agency partnership with representatives from community and voluntary sector, health and social care and business sector. Initial insight had been provided by a local entrepreneur and a mental health service-receiver. The pilot scheme would be evaluated and if successful, delivery expanded across Derbyshire.

It was proposed to award a grant of up to £45,000, funded from the Public Health Grant, to Fuzzy Ducklings. An initial payment of £5,432 would be paid to pilot the proposal in Chesterfield, with the remainder to be paid to expand the project across Derbyshire.

**RESOLVED** - that the Cabinet Member approve the provision of grant funding to Fuzzy Ducklings for delivery of a mental health friendly project at a value of up to £45,000 for a period of 2 years from 1 December 2020.

**50/20**      **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC** **RESOLVED** that the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of exempt information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING THE PRESS, WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING**

1. To consider the exempt report of the Director of Public Health on the Provision of Service for Children and Young People affected by the Substance Misuse of Others: Additional Funding (contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).