

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER MEETING – HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES**

**4 February 2021**

**Report of the Director of Public Health**

**UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To provide an update on organisations supported through the Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund and seek Cabinet Member approval to for allocating an additional £100,000 towards the fund.

**2. Information and Analysis**

The ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic has seen many organisations across Derbyshire working to ensure the basic needs of the most vulnerable residents are met, and it has become apparent that a number of community and voluntary sector organisations have insufficient resources to maintain their current level of response. In addition, supporting the clinically extremely vulnerable, social isolation and requirement for activities to comply with social distancing guidance have compelled many organisations to quickly adapt their service delivery model to operate within the guidance, often requiring additional resources to enable this.

On 24 June 2020, the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities approved the establishment of a Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund to support voluntary and community sector organisations in mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on local communities, and to work to improve the health and wellbeing of local populations. Funding of up to a maximum value of £2,000 is available for constituted groups and £250 for non-constituted groups.

The Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund is funded from the Public Health Grant. For this reason, all applications must be linked to the current Public Health work programme, for example to support mental health and emotional wellbeing, increase social connectedness, or to prevent demand on statutory services. This will 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 on organisations funded

report to Cabinet Member meetings. This is the second such quarterly update covering organisations who have received funding from 6 October to 21 December 2020.

In addition to the 30 organisations that have already been funded, additional applications, detailed below, have also been reviewed and approved for funding. Funding decisions are made by a panel comprising of an Assistant Director in Public Health, a Public Health Lead and a Health Improvement Practitioner, before ratification by the Director of Public Health. The following organisations have been approved for funding:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Application details</b>	<b>Funding approved</b>
Connex Community Support	High Peak and Derbyshire Dales	Use of organisation's transport service to offer free travel for eligible residents to access flu vaccination sessions at GP	£2,000.00
Kirk Hallam Community Centre	Erewash	Contribution to purchase of portacabin to develop a community shop to allow local residents access to nutritious affordable food.	£2,000.00
Direct Help and Advice	Countywide	Additional staffing hours for Rapid response advice support service – providing information and advice on a range of matters including housing debt information, and guidance, careers guidance, employment and skills support and mental health support	£2,000.00
Living Hope Foodbank	Chesterfield	Payment of annual membership fee to Fareshare due to increased demand	£1,911.00
Give for Good	Amber Valley	Provision of household essentials to support those in hardship	£2,000.00
The Hub @ Gladstone Building	NE Derbyshire	Room rental to support groups that use the facilities	£2,000.00
Radio Free Matlock	Derbyshire Dales	PPL licence for broadcast	£280.00
New Mills Youth and Community	High Peak	Establishment of a community pantry	£2,000.00
Monkey Park	Chesterfield	Development of outdoor area to allow local community to	£1,900.00

		continue to safely use the facilities throughout the winter period	
Be Well	High Peak	Extension of letter writing and contact projects and expansion of distribution of monthly community magazine	£1,990.00
Holme Hall Unite	Chesterfield	Supply of face coverings sanitiser and disinfectant to local vulnerable residents	£960.00
Ironville Church Hall	Amber Valley	Replace kitchen equipment to provide social eating opportunities for isolated local residents	£1,192.00
First Steps	Countywide	Pilot of Stand Up to Mental Health recovery through comedy programme to support young people aged 14 to 25 with mental health conditions	£2,000.00
LRJ asset management - The Brat Club	NE Derbyshire	Community Christmas Trail	£120.00
The Bureau Glossop	High Peak	Extension of the Call Companions project	£1,965.00
Stand To Project	Countywide	IT equipment to support homeworking and continue contact within clients	£1,963.00
East Peak Countryside association CIC	NE Derbyshire, Bolsover, Amber Valley	Development of a "miners to Medics" Community Walk	£2,000.00
Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice	County-wide	IT equipment for volunteers to support families, and provision of information and resources (including hand gel, and mental health and wellbeing resources)	£1,950.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Brampton Scouts	Chesterfield	Provision of IT equipment to be shared appropriately with other groups to enable young people without IT equipment or internet access to participate in virtual meetings	£1,830.00
Chapel-en-le Frith Community Christmas	High Peak	Packaging to support community gifts being donated by community to give to local vulnerable	£187.00

		households	
Mobile Physio	High Peak	Provision of additional wellbeing support to vulnerable and isolated residents during physiotherapist appointments eg information and referrals to dementia services, social groups and clubs and mental wellbeing support	£2,000
Safe and Sound Charity	Erewash and South Derbyshire	Additional provision of 1-1 support to young people at risk of sexual exploitation adopting a prevention and early intervention approach that focuses on healthy relationships, grooming, online safety, building confidence and resilience	£2,000
Enriching Communities CIC	Erewash and Amber Valley	Free provision of virtual exercise and movement activities to care home residents	£1,997
Take Part	High Peak	Provision of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Wellbeing workshops in schools, delivered by specialist coaches	£2,000
East Midlands Intermediate Care Scheme	Countywide	Ongoing emergency care personal protective equipment	£2,000
Helping Hands	Erewash	Purchase laptops to loan to clients who are not digitally connected to facilitate project work	£2,000
Salcare	Amber Valley	Purchase personal care items to add to food boxes	£2,000
Chesterfield Community Food Hut	Chesterfield	Fareshare membership fee and food for onward distribution	£2,000
Mental Health Motorbike	Countywide	Develop an online chat function on the group's website so members can reach a qualified mental health first aider.	£250.00

### **3. Financial Considerations**

The overall value of the Emergency Fund is £100,000 and to date £98,541.52 has been awarded to Derbyshire organisations. The fund was planned to run for a 12-month period, and based on spend to date, it is proposed to extend the fund by an additional £100,000. Funding is from the Public Health Reserve.

### **4. Human Resources Considerations**

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.

### **5. Legal Considerations**

The Council's Financial Regulations allow grants of up to £0.100m to organisations to be approved by Cabinet Member. The Council's Constitution allows for Cabinet Members to delegate authority to officers to undertake the powers afforded to them by the Constitution. 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.

### **6. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: equality of opportunity, health, environmental, transport, property and crime and disorder considerations.

### **7. Background Papers**

[Update on COVID-19 Emergency Fund – Cabinet Member of Health and Communities Cabinet Member Committee report](#)  
[Establishing a Public Health Emergency Fund to support the response to COVID-19 – Cabinet Member for Health and Communities Cabinet Member Committee Report.](#)

### **8. Key Decision**

No.

### **9. Is it required that the Call-in period be waived in respect of the decisions being proposed within this report?**

No

## **10. Officers Recommendation**

That the Cabinet Member:

- i. Notes the allocation of the Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund to date.
- ii. Approves the extension of the fund by an additional £100,000.
- iii. Continues to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to approve awards of no more than £2,000 to individual organisations.
- iv. Receives details of further recipient organisations on a quarterly basis.

**Dean Wallace**  
**Director of Public Health**