

Decision Pathway – Report



PURPOSE: For reference

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 02 June 2020

TITLE	Adult Social Care COVID-19 Funding report	
Ward(s)	<i>All</i>	
Author:	Hugh Evans	Job title: Director - Adult Social Care
Cabinet lead:	Helen Holland	Executive Director lead: Jacqui Jensen
Proposal origin: <i>BCC Staff</i>		
Decision maker: Cabinet Member Decision forum: <i>Cabinet</i>		
<p>Purpose of Report: £13.5m of COVID-19 funding was allocated from central government to Bristol City Council. Adult Social Care proposed that £9.37m be released to draw down when required for purposes set out in the table below. This decision was agreed by CLB as part of BCC's emergency response to support citizens. CLB will receive monthly reports to monitor the use of the ASC allocation.</p> <p>This report is for information.</p>		
<p>Evidence Base:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To address the significant additional pressure placed upon Adult Social Care by COVID-19 to support citizens in their homes, and/or following a hospital stay. 2. To support the most vulnerable citizens who are 'shielding', mobilising the full range of available support from the Council, the NHS, the voluntary and community sector, and independent sector care providers. 3. Offer financial and practical support to the Care Homes in the city that are supporting existing residents and new admissions as part of the whole system effort. 4. Work with dynamic demand modelling across the NHS and social care to ensure we have the right support for people at the right time. This involves increasing capacity where appropriate, particularly concentrating on Intermediate Care. 		
Service Activity	Based on Initial Wave 3 Months £'000	
Rapid scale up of Intermediate Care short-term intervention (for COVID cohort)	3,120	
BCC frontline staff cover	1,460	
Voluntary and community sector	750	
Care home sustainability during COVID-19	2,150	
Care home sustainability during COVID-19 - non BCC private care homes	220	
Domiciliary care market sustainability	1,209	
PPE	120	

Contingency	341
Total Funding	9,370

Please see appendix 1 for further breakdown of allocated and predicted spend to date.

The overall impact of COVID 19 is likely to be different from the initial demand predictions. Due to successful social distancing measures, the initial peak and short-term impact has been lower than expected, but it is now apparent that COVID-19 will be an issue for a longer period with a slower sustained impact. There remains a risk of a second wave as central government eases the current restrictions. It is important therefore that there is an allocated budget which can be flexed to meet requirements. For example, more money has already been spent on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) than anticipated due to the challenges of supply, but less has been spent on staffing. However, through the recovery phase it is likely that there will be an increase in staff costs as 'normal' activity resumes in the NHS.

The largest immediate cost for the Council has been maintaining the financial stability within Bristol's care sector. The demand to support this sector is likely to continue as long as the COVID-19 situation prevails. Specifically, alongside hospitals, Care Homes have become a second front line response for COVID-19 pressures and as a result, have required significant additional support from the NHS and social care.

Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. note the rationale for the allocated budget to ASC, and how it is broken down
2. agree a monthly reporting process to CLB

Corporate Strategy alignment:

1. **Empowering, and Caring and Wellbeing**– Supporting people as part of the COVID-19 response across all our communities in Bristol. Working together with the NHS and Public Health to support people in the 'shielded' cohort of most vulnerable citizens.

City Benefits:

1. Working together more closely with corporate colleagues, the NHS and community health provider (Sirona) has meant we can support organisations in the voluntary/community and independent sectors, practically and financially, to enable them to continue to deliver services
2. Mobilising and supporting volunteer services since COVID-19 has supported communities to mobilise, adding social value.

Consultation Details:

1. Regular member updates have been provided but due to the nature of COVID-19, actions have needed to be taken at pace.

Background Documents: Cabinet report (+ appendix A4) – COVID-19 Emergency Decision-Making (28 April 2020)

<https://democracy.bristol.gov.uk/documents/s48504/Emergency%20Response%20-%20Cabinet%20Report%20v6.pdf>

<https://democracy.bristol.gov.uk/documents/s48503/Appendix%20A4%20-%20Additional%20Payments%20for%20care%20providers.pdf>

Revenue Cost	c.£9.3m	Source of Revenue Funding	Central Government COVID-19 funding
Capital Cost	£	Source of Capital Funding	
One off cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing cost <input type="checkbox"/>	Saving Proposal <input type="checkbox"/>	Income generation proposal <input type="checkbox"/>

Required information to be completed by Financial/Legal/ICT/ HR partners:		
<p>1. Finance Advice: The emergency payments being made by Adult Social Care of £9.37m will be funded from the COVID-19 government response grant, paid to the Council at the beginning of April of £13.5m.</p> <p>However, it is worth noting that spending proposals may vary depending on changes in demand, and additional costs and loss of income for the period of the emergency may be incurred, which exceed this initial allocation. This may require a further drawdown on the second tranche of emergency government funding allocated to the Council of £12.9m. This will be kept closely under review.</p>		
Finance Business Partner: Denise Hunt, 14 May 2020		
<p>2. Legal Advice: The report is for reference only. Cabinet has authorised the delegated decision making in relation to the emergency financial provision arising due to Covid-19. This report fulfils the requirement to explain the decision made and provide reasons for the urgency of the decision.</p>		
Legal Team Leader: Husinara Jones, Solicitor/Team Leader, 12 May 2020		
3. Implications on IT: No anticipated impact on IT Services		
IT Team Leader: Simon Oliver, 12 May 2020		
<p>4. HR Advice: There are no direct implications for current Bristol City Council employees, although the money could be used to directly employ further BCC employees in our front line services either on a permanent or temporary basis. We may also need to identify care providers across the city where they require further staffing on a temporary basis, where they are struggling to ensure services are maintained due to shielding staff or sickness due to COVID19. We have been in discussions with our partner, Guidant, to look at how we can support moving temporary staff across the city to fill these gaps. These temporary staff would be employed directly by Guidant and not the Council for ease of moving to where the need is greatest.</p>		
HR Partner: Lorna Laing, HR Business Partner – 18 May 2020		
<p>5. Procurement Advice: The report covers a range of spend including those that have implications around current contracts such as variations and modifications under existing contract terms for the Care Home Framework and Home Care Contracts as well as ECH and Intermediate Care. Within this request is to provide additional grant funding to VCS organisations and the possibility of direct awarding an intermediate care provision outside of formal and compliant routes to market.</p> <p>These requests are in line with the current Coronavirus Procurement protocol and under the PCR Rules. The variations to do not exceed 50% of the contract value and the urgency of the intermediate care and VCS support are of an urgent need.</p> <p>Detailed work will be required to ensure that necessary governance and controls are put in place which would include and not be limited to formalising of contract variations, confirming authorisations of spend outside of existing compliant routes to market plus understanding what future additional work is required to support commercial arrangements in recovery stage.</p> <p>In respect of Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) emergency PPE Supplies for Adult Social Care is being provided by the Local Resilience Forum. The Council is also providing PPE, if there are difficulties with usual supply chain with considerations being made on the future provision of PPE and will include the requirements of Adult Social Care in its decision making.</p>		
Category Manager: Gina Smalley 12th May 2020		
EDM Sign-off	Jacqui Jensen	13 May 2020
Cabinet Member sign-off	Councillor Helen Holland	18 May 2020
For Key Decisions - Mayor's Office sign-off	Mayor's Office	22 May 2020

Appendix A – Adult Social Care – COVID-19 Funding	YES
Appendix B – Details of consultation carried out - internal and external	NO
Appendix C – Summary of any engagement with scrutiny	NO
Appendix D – Risk assessment	NO
Appendix E – Equalities screening / impact assessment of proposal	NO
Appendix F – Eco-impact screening/ impact assessment of proposal	NO
Appendix G – Financial Advice	NO
Appendix H – Legal Advice	NO
Appendix I – Exempt Information	NO
Appendix J – HR advice	NO
Appendix K – ICT	NO
Appendix L – Procurement	NO