

Decision Pathway – Report



PURPOSE: Key decision

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 12 July 2022

TITLE	New government funding for substance misuse support and treatment services		
Ward(s)	All wards		
Author: Ashley Ward/ Leonie Roberts	Job title: Senior Public Health Specialist Substance Use/ Consultant in Public Health		
Cabinet lead: Cllr Ellie King, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities	Executive Director lead: Hugh Evans, Executive Director People		
Proposal origin: BCC Staff			
Decision maker: Cabinet Member Decision forum: Cabinet			
Purpose of Report:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To seek approval to accept the new funding allocated to Bristol for the provision of drug and alcohol treatment services and rough sleeper drug and alcohol treatment and to establish a collaborative commissioning board to agree and take all necessary steps to spend the funding in line with local and national drugs and alcohol strategies. 			
Evidence Base:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bristol has a particularly high level of need relating to the use of drugs and alcohol. Substance misuse causes serious harm to individuals, families and communities. Bristol has an estimated 4,940 opiate and/or crack cocaine users. Whilst the proportion of Bristol residents using drugs is relatively small the impact can be extensive. Bristol has the second largest estimated rate of opiate and/or crack cocaine users (per 1,000 population) of the English core cities, and the largest proportion of very high complexity clients which makes them more likely to be in treatment for longer and need specific support. We spend around £9.9 million on the Bristol ROADS (Recovery Orientated Alcohol and Drugs Service) treatment system per year. Bristol has received, over the last two years an additional £2.4million per year for drug and alcohol services. This has included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> £711,000 through the Rough Sleeper Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant £1.7million through becoming one of the Project ADDER (Addiction, Disruption, Diversion, Enforcement and Recovery) sites in the UK. In 2023, both of these additional funding streams will come to an end. New funding (being described as <i>supplemental funding for drug and alcohol misuse treatment and recovery</i>) is intended to replace these funding streams, and allow us to add extra resource to our treatment services. RSDATG funding was specifically aimed to support homeless drug users, while ADDER funding was intended to 			

support people in criminal justice services who use drugs. The new funding is not tied to these cohorts, and will allow us to spend on a much wider range of services and demographic groups.

Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the acceptance of the allocated funding of £2,549,531 in 23/24 and £4,921,162 in 24/25 to deliver statutory duties under the national drugs strategy 'from Harm to Hope', and deliver a range of interventions in line with the Bristol local drug strategy 2021-2025 as outlined in this report
2. Approve the acceptance of the allocated funding of £827,000 in 22/23 and £950,000 in 23/24 to deliver a range of interventions aimed at improving the lives of rough sleepers.
3. Authorise the Executive Director People in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities to take all steps required to accept and spend the allocated funding in accordance with the requirements of the grants and to take all steps required to procure and award contracts (including any individual contracts over £500k) to deliver a range of substance misuse treatment services.
4. Authorise the Executive Director People in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities to invoke any subsequent extensions/variations specifically defined in the contract(s) being awarded, up to the maximum budget envelope outlined in this report.

Corporate Strategy alignment:

1. **Wellbeing** – Embed health in all our policies to improve physical & mental health and wellbeing, reducing inequalities and the demand for acute services.
2. **Bristol City Council Local Drug Strategy 2021-2025** – states: “where people do continue to use drugs or alcohol, we will use the best available evidence to reduce harm and provide appropriate support, recognising the importance of working with families and wider communities to ensure the services we provide are more than just a sticking plaster”
3. **The One City Plan** states “we continue to work on public health challenges including obesity and drug and alcohol misuse” and contains the goal that by 2027, “The successful implementation of the Bristol Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2021-2025, has helped to ensure that people live healthy lives safe from the harms of alcohol and other drugs ”

City Benefits:

1. Health: Reducing harm from alcohol and substance misuse by reducing hospital admission and substance misuse related deaths.
2. Social Value: Making communities safer by ensuring early identification and access to support and treatment for those misusing substances
3. Equalities: Reducing inequalities in health by promoting physical and mental health and ensuring access to health care for marginalised groups and deprived communities
4. Health: Reduction in anti-social behaviour and violence.
5. Equalities: Working together with the criminal justice system to combat substance misuse and repeated offending behaviour as a system wide approach
6. Sustainability: with continued funding, many of the projects setup between 2021 and 2023 will be able to continue provision and service delivery.

Consultation Details:

1. The funding will allow many of the programs and interventions initiated during the 2021-2023 period to continue, these have been subject to significant consultation with government departments, BCC strategic leads and local partners.
2. Future consultation will include, strategic leads, practitioners and service users of local partner organisations

including North Bristol NHS Trust, University Hospitals Bristol & Weston NHS Trust, Avon and Somerset Police, Probation Services, Bristol Drugs Project, Developing Health and Independence, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust. Bristol City Council Public Health and Communities Team, and Drug Strategy Working Group, and strategic leads at the Office for Health Improvements and Disparities. The resulting recommendations will be incorporated in any decision around spend of the funding allocation.

Background Documents

[Additional substance misuse funding planning guidance](#)

[Bristol Drug and Alcohol JSNA](#)

[Drug and Alcohol Strategy for Bristol 2021-2025](#)

[From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Revenue Cost	£2,549,531 in 2023/24 and £4,921,162 in 2024/25 (supplemental) £827,000 in 2022/23 and £950,000 in 2023/24 (Rough Sleeper)	Source of Revenue Funding	Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery grant and Rough Sleeper Funding
Capital Cost	£N/A	Source of Capital Funding	N/A
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:

1. Finance Advice: This report seeks approval to accept and spend the new funding allocated to Bristol for the provision of drug and alcohol treatment services and rough sleeper drug and alcohol treatment funding. Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery grant of £2,549,531 is expected for 2023/24 and £4,921,162 for 2024/25. This funding is to deliver statutory duties under the national drugs strategy ‘from Harm to Hope’, and will deliver a range of interventions in line with BCC’s local drug strategy 2021-2025. The report also notes the allocation of £827,000 in 2022/23 and £950,000 in 2023/24 of grant funding, to deliver a range of interventions aimed at improving the lives of rough sleepers.

Eligibility for supplemental funding will be dependent on maintaining existing public health grant (2020/21) investment in drug and alcohol treatment at existing levels. The supplemental funding will replace existing funding through the Rough Sleeper Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant of £0.711m and £1.7million via Project ADDER and by 2024/25 will significantly increase the resources available for treatment services.

Finance Business Partner: Denise Hunt, Finance Business Partner, 10 May 2022

2. Legal Advice: The procurement process must be conducted in line with the 2015 Procurement Regulations and the Councils own procurement rules. Legal services will advise and assist officers with regard to the conduct of the procurement process and the resulting contractual arrangements.

Legal Team Leader: Husinara Jones, Team Leader/Solicitor, 20 June 2022

3. Implications on IT: I can see no implication on IT in regard to this activity

IT Team Leader Gavin Arbuckle Head of Service Improvement and Performance, 16 May 2022

4. HR Advice: There are no significant HR implications for Bristol City Council employees as a result of this report.

HR Business Partner: Lorna Laing HR Business Partner 9 May 2022		
EDM Sign-off	Hugh Evans	11 May 2022
Cabinet Member sign-off	Cllr Ellie King	19 May 2022
For Key Decisions - Mayor's Office sign-off	Mayor's Office	13 June 2022

Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal	NO
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