

Appendix A3

Drug Strategy Housing Support Fund

Improving drug and alcohol treatment outcomes for people with a housing need

Approval has previously been sought and given by Cabinet on 6 December 2022 to accept and spend grant funding totalling £1,208,226; £604,113 for the financial year 2023-24, and a further £604,113 for the financial year 2024-2025, allocated to Bristol in September 2022 specifically for a menu of interventions related to the provision of drug and alcohol treatment and housing support for people at risk of homelessness.

The award amount has since been revised up to total £1,418,938.

Details

All other details remain unchanged. By way of recap, the report sought to accept and spend Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery (SSMTR): Housing Support grant funding of £604,113 for the financial year 2023-24, and a further £604,113 for the financial year 2024-2025. The funding is for revenue expenditure and is targeted at people over 18, in order to increase the proportion of people recovering from drug and alcohol dependency in stable and secure housing. The funding has been awarded to local councils on a 'test and learn' basis, to grow the evidence base on both the housing related needs of people in treatment and effective housing interventions. Spending proposals have been prepared that are fully funded within the grant envelope and commissioners have confirmed that there will be an appropriate exit strategy for when the funding ceases, to ensure no ongoing liability for the council. Underspends in each year cannot be rolled into the following year.

Cabinet:

1. Authorised the Executive Director People in consultation with the cabinet member Public Health and Communities and the Director of Public Health to take all steps required to accept and spend the allocated funding of up to £1.208m in accordance with the requirements of the grants (including procuring and awarding contracts) to deliver a range of substance misuse treatment and housing support services as outlined in this report
2. Authorised the Executive Director People in consultation with the cabinet member Public Health and Communities and the Director of Public Health to invoke any subsequent extensions/variations specifically defined in the contract(s) being awarded, up to the maximum budget envelope outlined in this report

This report seeks approval to accept Drug Strategy Housing Support Fund revised allocation of £1.419m grant funding and to adjust revenue budgets accordingly.