

# Decision Pathway – Report



**PURPOSE:** Key decision

**MEETING:** Cabinet

**DATE:** 23 January 2024

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Increasing allocation for Bristol’s Smoking Cessation Service (Stopping the Start: a new smokefree generation funding)</b>		
<b>Ward(s)</b>	City wide		
<b>Author:</b> Sally Hogg	<b>Job title:</b> Consultant in Public Health		
<b>Cabinet lead:</b> Cllr Ellie King, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities	<b>Executive Director lead:</b> Hugh Evans, Executive Director Adults and Communities		
<b>Proposal origin:</b> BCC Staff			
<b>Decision maker:</b> Cabinet Member <b>Decision forum:</b> Cabinet			
<b>Purpose of Report:</b> To seek approval to accept and spend additional funding in relation to Bristol’s Smoking Cessation Service.			
<b>Evidence Base:</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In October 2023 the Department for Health and Social Care published a command paper detailing a package of measures that will reduce the harms caused by smoking and prevent ill-health, disability and death. This includes plans to create the first smokefree generation, increasing support for existing smokers to quit smoking, and taking action to tackle vaping amongst young people. The Government’s proposals will help achieve the national ambition of a smokefree England by 2030 and protect children and young people from developing a nicotine addiction.</li> <li>2. As part of this package of measures, increased funding has been announced for local authority-commissioned smoking cessation services. The funding will be delivered through a new Section 31 grant, over five financial years from 2024 -2025 to 2028 -2029. The funding will be ringfenced for the purposes of local authority-led stop smoking services.</li> <li>3. Bristol City Council currently spends around £455k on Stop Smoking and Tobacco Control. This includes Quit Services, Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) costs, tobacco control and commissioning costs.</li> <li>4. The new funding allocation for Bristol is £742,043 per year.</li> <li>5. Local authorities will be required to meet specific criteria to be eligible for the additional funding. The funding figures listed in the schedule are therefore indicative of the maximum amount of funding each area will be able to receive from the grant by meeting all the eligible criteria.</li> <li>6. The eligibility criteria are as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To receive the funding local authorities must maintain their existing spend on stop smoking services, as of Quarter 2 in 2022 -2023 throughout the whole grant period.</li> <li>b) Local authorities must also maintain compliance with the reporting requirements for expenditure related to the stop smoking service by submitting quarterly reports to NHS Digital.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>			

7. Detailed funding criteria will be communicated to local authorities through the formal grant agreement process.
8. There will be some flexibility for the funding to support wider tobacco and youth vaping control efforts, such as local awareness raising campaigns, to provide more flexibility at the local level. However, the majority of the funding is required to be focused on smoking cessation. Bristol City Council Public Health team work closely with schools and their wider communities to address youth smoking and vaping in a whole-school evidence-based manner via the Healthy Schools programme. This includes information for local policy and leadership, lesson planning, behaviour management and clear pathways for further support. Prevalence of youth vaping is newly measured within the Bristol Pupil Voice survey which amasses data from schools across the city; and findings are used to target activity as appropriate. Bespoke training on vaping is available to schools and partners for free and has recently been delivered to School Nurses across BNSSG. Bristol Public Health also fund specific enforcement work focussing on youth vaping from local Trading Standards, who host a dedicated regional Trading Standards post. Bristol Tobacco Control colleagues work closely with BNSSG partners and regional South West counterparts to maintain an understanding and awareness of youth vaping intelligence, guidance and interventions.
9. Note that the approvals within this report supersede the previous Cabinet decision taken in July 2023 which were to not renew the current contract with the incumbent provider in order to commission a new service, to address new developments in smoking cessation and tobacco control. The funding that has since been announced in Autumn 2023 local authority is unprecedented and public health teams were not forewarned. As a result of this new funding allocation a compliant contract extension/variation with the incumbent provider will be implemented to allow for the time required to design a new smoking cessation service of higher value and greater complexity.

**Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:**

That Cabinet:

1. Note the new annual allocation of funding for local authority smoking cessation services, of up to £742,043 per year from 1st April 2024 until 31st March 2029.
2. Authorise the Executive Director for Adults and Communities in consultation with the Director of Public Health and the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities City to accept and spend the funding including to procure and award contracts in relation to smoking cessation services as outlined in this report.
3. Authorise the Head of Strategic Procurement & Supplier Relations to approve appropriate procurement routes to market where these are not yet fully defined in this report, or if changes to procurement routes are subsequently required.
4. Note that the approvals within this report supersede the previous Cabinet decision taken in July 2023, prior to notification of additional funding and enable a compliant contract extension/variation to allow for design of higher value services to reflect the additional funding.

**Corporate Strategy alignment:**

1. Theme 4 (wellbeing) of the Bristol City Council Corporate Strategy 2022-2027 describes an ambition to tackling health inequalities, focusing on preventative and early intervention approaches that are person-centred and rooted in communities. Tobacco addiction remains the single biggest cause of premature death in Bristol, the largest lifestyle driver of inequalities in health and the leading modifiable risk factor for poor pregnancy outcomes.
2. The One City Plan contains ambitions to give children the best start in life, to help residents live long and healthy lives, and reduce health inequalities. The evidence base for smoking cessation interventions directly supporting

each of these goals is robust and substantial.

**City Benefits:**

1. This proposal ensures the expanded provision of smoking cessation services focussing upon the communities in Bristol who are at the highest risk of poor health outcomes and health inequalities in Bristol.
2. Tobacco is the one of the most preventable causes of ill health, disability and death, responsible for 1,300 deaths in Bristol each year.
3. Total costs of smoking in Bristol are £227.9million every year, accrued across healthcare costs, social care costs, fire service costs, and lost productivity.
4. Three-quarters of current smokers would never have started if they had the choice again, and there is strong public support for action: 77% of adults in England support government action to limit smoking or think the government should do more.

**Consultation Details:**

1. Future consultation will include strategic leads, practitioners and service users of local partner organisations including local BNSSG Integrated Care Board, North Somerset Council, South Gloucestershire Council 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:**

1. [Stopping the start: our new plan to create a smokefree generation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/stopping-the-start-our-new-plan-to-create-a-smokefree-generation)
2. [Health Policy - ASH](#)
3. [Facts at a Glance - ASH](#)
4. [Smoking, Pregnancy and Fertility - ASH](#)
5. [Smoking and mental health | RCP London](#)
6. [Quality of life in Bristol](#)
7. [NHS Long Term Plan » Online version of the NHS Long Term Plan](#)
8. [Smokers urged to swap cigarettes for vapes in world first scheme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/smokers-urged-to-swap-cigarettes-for-vapes-in-world-first-scheme)
9. [Cabinet Paper Targeted Smoking Cessation 4.7.23 FINAL.pdf \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)

<b>Revenue Cost</b>	£742,043	<b>Source of Revenue Funding</b>	Section 31 funding from DHSC.
<b>Capital Cost</b>	£0	<b>Source of Capital Funding</b>	N/A
<b>One off cost</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Ongoing cost</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Saving Proposal</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Income generation proposal</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

**Required information to be completed by Financial/Legal/ICT/ HR partners:**

**1. Finance Advice:** This report follows on from the July 2023 report to Cabinet and seeks authority to accept a revised allocation of funding for local authority smoking cessation services and to procure and award contracted smoking cessation services, in line with this new funding agreement. The funding allocation is now confirmed at £742,043 for 2024/25. This new funding is in addition to the current Public Health grant allocations. This funding will continue until 2028/29 but payment will be based in future years on a 3-year average rate of smoking numbers so could vary. To receive the funding, the council needs to maintain its existing spending levels on stop smoking services. There will be no additional costs to the Council.

**Finance Business Partner:** Denise Hunt, Finance Business Partner, 9 November 2023

**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 Manager/Solicitor, 8 January 2024

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

<b>IT Team Leader:</b> Alex Simpson, Lead Enterprise Architect, 8 November 2023
<b>4. HR Advice:</b> The report is seeking permission to accept additional Stopping the Start (smoking cessation) funding and delegated authority to procure and to award contract services in line with the funding agreement. There are no significant HR implications arising from this report for Bristol City Council employees.
<b>HR Partner:</b> Lorna Laing, HR Business Partner, 6 November 2023

<b>EDM Sign-off</b>	Hugh Evans, Executive Director Adults and Communities	22 November 2023
<b>Cabinet Member sign-off</b>	Cllr Ellie King, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities.	30 November 2023
<b>For Key Decisions - Mayor's Office sign-off</b>	Mayor's Office	20 December 2023

<b>Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix B – Details of consultation carried out - internal and external</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix C – Summary of any engagement with scrutiny</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix D – Risk assessment</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix E – Equalities screening / impact assessment of proposal</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Appendix F – Eco-impact screening/ impact assessment of proposal</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Appendix G – Financial Advice</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix H – Legal Advice</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix I – Exempt Information</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Appendix J – HR advice</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix K – ICT</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Appendix L – Procurement</b>	<b>NO</b>