

OFFICER DECISION RECORD 1 FORM

This form should be used to record Officer Decisions in Excess of £100k (but below the key decision threshold), or where required by Financial, Contract or other Procedure Rules or following formal delegation from Cabinet or a Cabinet Member or a Council Committee.

Decision Reference No: AHWB.014.2021 Allocation of Infection Control Fund Grant (20%) Tranche 2

BOX 1**DIRECTORATE:** AHWB**DATE:** 10/03/2021**Contact Name:** Kathryn Anderson-Bratt**Tel. No.:** 737013**Subject Matter:** Allocation of Infection Control Fund Grant (20%) Tranche 2**BOX 2****DECISION TAKEN**

To allocate the 20% discretionary amount of Infection Control Fund Grant as outlined within this report in line with the rule 16 Mayor's decision 4th November 2020

BOX 3**REASON FOR THE DECISION**

The Department of Health and Social Care recently announced an extension to the Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund. The fund was put in place to support adult social care providers to reduce the rate of transmission in and between care homes and support wider workforce resilience. The initial tranche of grant monies were used to help providers pay for additional infection control measures including but not limited to: additional staff and /or maintain the normal wages of staff who, in order to reduce the spread of infection need to reduce the number of establishments in which they work, reduce the number of hours they work, or self-isolate.

Within the initial tranche of the fund, Councils were required to pay 75% directly to care home providers and use the 25% to support other provision. The 25% in Doncaster was distributed to Council and CCG contracted registered community care providers.

Within the second allocation of funding Councils are required to pay 80% directly to Care Home and Community Care providers registered within their boundaries (regardless of whether they are contracted with either the Council or CCG). Of the 80%, 71% must be awarded to Care Homes and 29% to Community Care. The remaining 20% is at the discretion of the Council to award and distribute.

The total amount of funding for Doncaster within the second tranche of the fund is £2.935m and therefore the discretionary 20% total amount is £587k.

This second allocation of funding was subject to a Cabinet Report dated 4th November 2020 which includes the following recommendations:

- a. Approve the receipt and distribution of the Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund.
- b. Delegate responsibility for conditions that apply to the Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund to the Director of Adults Health and Wellbeing in consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources and the Portfolio Holder for Adults Health & Wellbeing.

For the 20% discretionary funding consideration has been given to other provider services and settings including Housing Related Support (Hostels and Homeless support), Day Services and Direct Payment recipients given these services share some characteristics, and delivery models and IPC related risks with care homes and/or community care.

Service type IPC related characteristics and risks

Housing Related Support

Provision of a range of direct support to individuals often in building based settings involving infrequent physical contact/close proximity with individuals and therefore risks surrounding IPC and potential exposure to infection for both parties. In addition, floating support services deliver support across communities to multiple domestic addresses/individuals, exacerbating potential wider exposure to and transmission of infection. PPE has been enhanced during the response to Covid in accordance with Government guidance with specific PPE requirements linked to situational circumstances.

Housing related support services did not receive funding under the first tranche but have had access to the Supplier Relief Scheme for additional Covid related costs during March to June 2020. They will also have access to the extended Supplier Relief Scheme from July 2020 to October 2020.

Day Services

Provision of a range of direct personal care and support often in a building based setting. IPC risks and exposure to infection as per care homes/domiciliary care. During the first wave of Covid Day Services closed in line with government guidance, however, due to the impact on individuals and families that would normally attend, day services are being encouraged to remain open during the second wave with enhanced focus on cohorting (staff and individuals in attendance), numbers of attendees etc. to try and limit the risk of infection. PPE is typically used in delivery of any personal care at the day service, enhanced during COVID19 in accordance with Government guidance with specific PPE requirements linked to situational circumstances.

Day services to this point have received no additional funding to support with Covid related costs, however, they will have access to the extended Supplier Relief Scheme.

Shared Lives

Provision of a range of support, which may include elements of personal care within the hosts own home. Individuals are supported to live with hosts and they are paid an allowance by Avalon – this is a contracted service. IPC risks and exposure to infection would be the same as anyone living within their own home. PPE is typically used in delivery of any personal care, which we would expect to be enhanced during COVID19 in accordance with Government guidance with specific PPE requirements linked to situational circumstances.

Shared Lives to this point have received no additional funding to support with Covid related costs.

Direct Payment Recipients

Provision of a range of direct personal care and support to individuals (esp. older/frail individuals) in their own homes involving physical contact/close proximity with service users and therefore risks surrounding IPC and potential exposure to infection for both parties. Care workers typically deliver care across communities to multiple domestic addresses/individuals, exacerbating potential wider exposure to and transmission of infection. PPE is typically used in delivery of support, enhanced during COVID19 in

accordance with Government guidance with specific PPE requirements linked to situational circumstances.

Typically, direct payment recipients utilise their budgets for personal care support through one of two options, they employ Personal Assistants directly or they employ a domiciliary care agency to deliver the support and make payment to them through their personal budget.

Any provision delivered by domiciliary care agencies will have access to the second tranche of funding from the Council that they are registered within the boundary of, as per the conditions of the grant they qualify for funding under the community care providers 29%.

Direct Payment recipients that choose to employ PAs would not have access to the community care element of the fund.

Proposed services in scope

Given the above and to comply with grant conditions, it is proposed that IPC funding is provided to Housing Related Support, Day Services, Shared Lives and Direct Payment Recipients (only those employing PAs). It is proposed that an appropriate calculated payment is made to Housing Related Support Providers, Day Services, Shared Lives with an opportunity for Direct Recipients who employ PAs to submit a claim.

Allocation of IPC funds for Housing Related Support and Day Services

Two options have been explored based upon common characteristics:

- Option 1: Council spend on service
- Option 2: Number of individuals supported

Option 1 (Council spend on service) is considered less appropriate, given that providers have differing contracted rates. Consequently, those providers with higher contracted rates could provide less service to fewer people but still receive a greater proportion of IPC fund.

Using the number of individuals supported (Option 2) is also more akin to the methodology applied to allocation of IPC funds to care homes and community care providers i.e. number of registered beds/individuals supported. Using this approach recognises the potential transmission risk both within services and across the wider community as the number of contacts with different individuals presents more potential for wider spread of infection.

On this basis, option 2 is recommended as the most appropriate method of IPC fund allocation across Housing Related Support and Day Services. It is recommended that these services receive a payment of £118 per individual supported to recognise that they would not be expected to have as much direct contact with individuals as community care providers but would be required to utilise additional IPC measures in order to support staff and individuals during the Covid response.

Allocation of IPC funds for Shared Lives and Direct Payment Recipients

Given that the services provided within Shared Lives and by PAs employed by Direct Payment Recipients is similar to the services delivered by Community Care providers, it is recommended that these services receive the same allocated amount per individual as the Community Care providers of £236 per individual supported.

It is worth noting that for reporting purposes to the DHSC, the allocation made for Shared Lives and Direct Payment Recipients will need to be recorded as a lump sum without the pro-formas completed on areas of spend.

Payment and monitoring arrangements

For reasons of consistency of approach, it is proposed to action payments for Day Services and Housing Related Support as per the prescribed arrangements for care homes and community care. Monitoring

and reporting arrangements have been agreed in line with the reporting requirements for the 80% grant allocation.

For Shared Lives it is proposed to make a single one off payment to each individual that qualifies for this support.

For Direct Payment Recipients it is proposed to allow a claim process to access the funding as information on the Direct Payment Recipients using their direct payment to employ PAs is unavailable without a manual trawl of Carefirst. It is proposed that they are able to claim a maximum of £236 each.

Individuals Supported and Allocations

Service	Individuals Supported	Amount per Individual	Total Allocation
Day Services – Making Space	48	£118	£5,664
Day Services – Age UK	30	£118	£3,540
Day Services – Diamond Centre	22	£118	£2,596
Shared Lives	18	£236	£4,248
Day Services – SMILE	541	£118	£63,838
Housing Related Support	936 (estimate)	£118	£110,448
Total Allocation (excluding DP and VCF)			£190,334

By the allocation of the above funds, the remaining amount of approximately £310,000 would be available for Direct Payment Recipients.

BOX 4

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not allocate the additional discretionary 20% grant and return the funding to the DHSC

BOX 5

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides the Council with a general power of competence, allowing the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do. The council also have a number of other duties to ensure that vulnerable people in its area receive appropriate care. The Council must cooperate with Government measures to ensure that the spread of Covid-19 is controlled as far as possible.

The Council has been provided with monies by the Government to deliver measures to supplement and strengthen infection control measures. The money provided must be used strictly in accordance with the Grant conditions issued by the Government. It is important to follow Government Guidance on the purpose of the grant(s) and the monitoring required.

The legal team have in conjunction with the author provided advice on the Government Guidance, State aid and subsidy control. The legal team have drawn up grant agreements for recipients as requested.

Name: Nichola Varty Signature: electronically Date: 12th March 2021
Signature of Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services (or representative)

BOX 6

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund is a grant ring-fenced to be used by providers in Doncaster to improve infection control as identified in the body of the report above. As such the full £2,935,152 of the Infection Control Fund is additional to the Council's funding and must be passed on to Adult Social Care providers within Doncaster in accordance with the terms of the grant.

As instructed in the Local Authority Circular dated 1st October 2020, the council allocated 54% (£1,596,425) to care homes within the local authority's geographical area on a 'per beds' basis and 26% (£751,696) to CQC regulated community care providers within the local authority's geographical area on a 'per user' basis, including to social care providers with whom the local authority does not have existing contracts. The remaining 20% (£587,031) is to be allocated to other care settings allocation, including non-CQC regulated residential settings but this can be allocated at the Council's discretion, this is set out in box 3 of this report. As can be seen to date approximately £330k is as yet uncommitted and will require a further ODR if committed at a later date.

Name: Paul Williams Signature: electronically Date: 10/03/21
Signature of Assistant Director of Finance & Performance
(or representative)

BOX 7

OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Assistant Director (or representative)

ANY IMPLICATIONS SENT TO DEPARTMENTS SHOULD GENERALLY BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 5 WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE TO ENSURE THESE CAN BE GIVEN THE RELEVANT CONSIDERATION.

BOX 8

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS: (To be completed by the author).

There are no equality impacts identified within this report as all providers will be treated equitably

BOX 9**RISK IMPLICATIONS:** (To be completed by the author)

There is a risk to ongoing sustainability within the Adult Social Care provider market and therefore service continuity related risks for people supported by these services.

BOX 10**CONSULTATION**

N/A

BOX 11**INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, it is in the Public's interests for this decision to be published in full, redacting only the signatures.

Name: Gillian Parker Signature by email Date: 31/03/2021

Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

BOX 12**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Please confirm if any Background Papers are included with this ODR

No

(If YES please list and submit these with this form)

**BOX 13
AUTHORISATION**

Name: Phil Holmes Signature : 

Date: 25.3.21

Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Does this decision require authorisation by the Chief Financial Officer or other Officer

YES


If yes please authorise below:

Name: Debbie Hogg Signature: 

Date: 26.3.21

Director of Corporate Resources

Consultation with Relevant Member(s)

Name Councillor Rachael Blake **Signature:** 

Date:

Designation Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

Declaration of Interest YES/NO

If YES please give details below:

PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE IN FULL UNLESS IT CONTAINS EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

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It is the responsibility of the decision taker to clearly identify any information that is confidential or exempt and should be redacted before publication.