

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: 2022/22/PH/Covidfunding

BOX 1

DIRECTORATE:PUBLIC HEALTH

DATE: 10/06/2022

Contact Name: Clare Henry

Tel. No.: 01302 734463

Subject Matter: COVID-19 monies 2022/2023

BOX 2

DECISION TAKEN

To utilise the £2.488m COVID funding carried forward into 2022/23 previously allocated in 2020-2021 & 2021-2022 for key areas of continued COVID-19 related support services.

BOX 3

REASON FOR THE DECISION

During 2020/21, financial support for local authorities was made available from the Government by way of grants under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 to deliver key activities to respond to local outbreaks of COVID, provide containment interventions and support residents most impacted by COVID. The first tranche of funding under the heading of Test and Trace (T&T) of £2.23m was approved via a Rule 16 on 13th July 2020. Further funding was released under the heading Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) £2.495m and £5.527m both approved via a Rule 16 on 9th November 2020 and 23rd December 2020 respectively. All three approvals delegated to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources and the Portfolio Holder for Public Health future decision making regarding these funding streams.

Under the terms and conditions of the grants, underspends were permitted to roll forward in 2021/22, further guidance was then issued from UK Health Security Agency providing confirmation that any underspend could also be carried forward into 2022/2023. The funding is ring-fenced for public health purposes to tackle COVID-19 by working to break the chains of transmission and protecting people.

The current balance of £2.488m is sat in an earmarked reserve, this ODR seeks approval to allocate these resources to ensure there are the skills and capabilities to provide effective health protection and humanitarian response arrangements (see table 1).

Table 1:	
Area of COVID Response & Recovery Support	Allocated Amount
Local PH Health Protection Team	£300,000
Advice & Guidance : Adult Social Care	£60,000
Advice & Guidance : Early Years	£80,000
Advice & Guidance: Environmental Health	£100,000
PH Targeted Engagement	£190,000
COVID Data and surveillance:	
PIC	£170,000
IT	£145,000
Swabbing and Infection Prevention & Control	£150,000
Communications	£111,000
PH COVID Team Response	£240,000
Surge/contingency	£116,300
Domestic Abuse Support	£160,000
Community Renewal Fund Pump Priming/Engage Work	£325,000
Community Connector Budget	£70,000
Allied Health Professional	£96,035
Citizens Advice Bureau	£175,000

BOX 4

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not to approve the proposed spending plan which may result in increasing budget and staff capacity pressures within the Council and potentially having to return unspent grant allocations.

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. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives the Council the power to purchase goods and services. The Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 (as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2008) contains powers to deal with pandemics and to manage an infection which presents or could present “significant harm to human health.

The decision maker should assure themselves that the proposed uses of these monies is in accordance with the requirements of the funder.

The appointment of any staff using these monies should be done in accordance with Council policies.

Any money spent with external providers or given as funding should be done in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules, including where appropriate the completion of appropriate contractual documentation. Further advice should be sought from both Legal services and Strategic Procurement as necessary.

Name: __Scott Fawcus__ Signature: __S.R. Fawcus__ Date: __10.06.22__

Signature of Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services (or representative)

BOX 6

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Per the body of the report the Council received COVID grant funding under Test and Trace and Contain the Outbreak Management Fund to deliver key activities to respond to local outbreaks of COVID, provide containment interventions and support residents most impacted by COVID. The receipt of this funding was approved as highlighted in the body of the report with the subsequent delegations for further decisions.

The Council has received notification that underspends were permitted to roll forward into both 2021/22 and 2022/23. The current balance held in the Council’s earmarked reserves (ref no. 7416 & 7417) is £2.488m. This ODR is seeking approval to utilise the full £2.488m as identified in table 1 in the body of the report.

During 2020/21 and 2021/22 the Council submitted monthly returns on both planned spend and actual spend from these grants. It is yet to be confirmed what the requirements will be in 2022/23, therefore it is important that any expenditure continues to be monitored and recorded in accordance with the conditions of the grant and to ensure this information can be provided in the event of further grant returns being requested. Furthermore the correspondence allowed the carry forward of these grants in 2022/23 there was no mention beyond this date, therefore any

unspent monies at 31/03/23 may need to be returned.

Name: Helen Rowlands Signature: _____ Date: 14/06/21

Signature of Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance (or representative)

BOX 7

It is important to continue to prevent and identify cases, clusters and outbreaks of COVID -19. Organisations and settings continue to require advice and guidance to protect residents who are vulnerable to COVID-19. This requires ongoing effective resources that cannot be simply provided by existing service budgets. This decision is to allocate funding to enable the continuation of key work areas to support the implementation of Doncaster's COVID Control Plan.

Name: Clare Henry Signature: CEHenry Date: 10.06.2022

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:

COVID-19 has had a greater impact on more deprived communities and people from ethnic minorities and may experience barriers to accessing to COVID related services. Analysis of data and insight gathered through community engagement will help to shape the services to address inequalities and support residents disproportionately impacted by COVID.

BOX 9

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Approaches to addressing the risk to individuals and the health and social care system of COVID-19 continue to develop with change in government policy and therefore it may be necessary to adapt our approach to respond to these changes.

BOX 10

CONSULTATION

This proposal has been developed with the COVID control board and council directors.

BOX 11

INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION

None identified

Name: Claire Hewitt Signature _____ Date: 14/06/2022

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 YES

Rule 16 Special Urgency Decision taken by Mayor Ros Jones: COVID Community Testing Programme 14th January 2021.

BOX 13

AUTHORISATION

Name: Dr Rupert Suckling Signature: _____ Date: 14/06/2022

Director of Public Health

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

YES

If yes please authorise below:

Name: Debbie Hogg Signature: _____ Date: 28.6.22

Director of Corporate Resources

Consultation with Relevant Member(s)

Name: Councillor Nigel Ball **Signature:** _____ **Date:** 15/06/2022

Designation Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning

(e.g. Mayor, Cabinet Member or Committee Chair/Vice-Chair)

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.

Once completed a PDF copy of this form and any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk who will arrange publication.

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