

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

4 March 2014

Report of the Director of Public Health

PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCE FUND – HOUSING-RELATED SUPPORT SERVICES (Health and Communities)

1. Purpose of the Report

To consider funding for housing-related support services currently commissioned by Adult Care from the Public Health Resource Fund.

2. Information and Analysis

At the meeting on 3 December 2013, Cabinet agreed to create a Public Health Resource Fund to support preventative programmes across the Council. This was agreed as £1m in 2013/14, £2m recurrently in 2014/15 and 2015/16. To date, £675,000 has been allocated to enable the Council to continue in 2014/15 supporting activity undertaken by voluntary organisations which are currently funded from the Adult Care budget. Work is underway across the Council to identify further priorities for consideration.

At the Council Meeting on 5 February 2014, the revenue budget for 2014/15 was approved, including budget reductions in service areas. At the meeting, it was agreed to direct £450,000 additional income not identified in the budget report to reduce the proposed cut to housing-related support services.

Housing-related support services help vulnerable people to set up and maintain a home where they can live safely and well. Support services include helping people manage finances, pay bills, better manage their health including any drug or alcohol addictions, keep safe and develop links with the community. These areas align with the Public Health Outcomes Framework.

The total cut proposed for housing related support services was £962,000 in 2014/15. The contribution of £450,000 approved by Council reduces the proposed cut in budget to £512,000 for 2014/15. Given the high priority attached to this funding, it would be appropriate to meet this shortfall from the Public Health Resource Fund to allow time to formulate priorities for 2015/16.

Funding from the Public Health Resource Fund for these and a number of other areas beyond 2014/15 will be dependent on the work underway to identify prevention priorities across the whole council. The overall aim is to align resources to gain the most benefit for local people and to maintain the services which have the greatest protective effect on the health of our population. All of the areas will be subject to review and potential redesign to obtain value for money and achieve the best outcomes.

An overall position is being developed for consideration at a future Cabinet meeting which will identify priorities for funding from the Public Health ring fenced grant.

3. Financial considerations

The proposed contribution of £512,000 can be met from the Public Health grant.

4. Other considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, legal, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

5. Key Decision

No

6. Call-in

Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No

7. Background Papers

Cabinet and Council Meeting reports

8. OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the sum of £512,000 be awarded from the Public Health Resource Fund towards housing-related support services in 2014/15.

Elaine Michel
Director of Public Health