

**OPEN**

**Adults and Health Committee**

**24<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Single Drug and Alcohol Treatment and  
Recovery Improvement Grant Acceptance**

**Report of: Helen Charlesworth-May, Executive Director of Adults, Health and Integration**

**Report Reference No: AH/31/2024-25**

**Ward(s) Affected: All Wards**

**For Decision or Scrutiny: Decision**

**Purpose of Report**

- 1 This report seeks approval from Committee for the Council to accept the Single Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG) which is administered by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities.
- 2 This funding will support the Council in achieving its aim of being an organisation which 'empowers and cares about people' thus 'reducing health inequalities across the Borough'.

**Executive Summary**

- 3 Adult and Health Committee is being asked to approve acceptance of the Single Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Improvement Grant.
- 4 The grant has been provided on an annual basis in previous years and will be used to contribute to funding for the new drugs and alcohol contract. A report on the recommission of this service was presented at Committee in January 2025.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Adult and Health Committee is recommended to:

1. Approve the Council receiving the Single Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Improvement Grant as a supplementary estimate of £524,528
2. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Adults, Health and Integration to oversee the execution of any relevant paperwork in connection with this grant.

## **Background**

- 5 The budget and policy framework sets out rules for managing the Council's financial affairs and contains the financial limits that apply in various parts of the Constitution. As part of sound financial management and to comply with the constitution any changes to the budgets agreed by Council in the Medium Term Financial Strategy require approval at committee in line with the financial limits within the Finance Procedure Rules.
- 6 The Council has been successful in securing £524,528 in 2025/26 from the Department of Health & Social Care revenue funding. This funding is managed by the Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) and is awarded for the Single Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Improvement Grant (previously referred to as the Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment & Recovery Grant). The grant will be provided pursuant to section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. This follows receipt of a similar amount in the previous year.
- 7 Adult and Health Committee recently approved the procurement of the Drug and Alcohol Service at January committee. The grant funds would enable the new service model to be implemented which was discussed in this report. This includes the offering of a hub and spoke model orientated around care communities.

## **Consultation and Engagement**

- 8 As part of the budget setting process the Pre-Budget Consultation provided an opportunity for interested parties to review and comment on the Council's Budget proposals. The budget proposals described in the consultation document were Council-wide proposals and that consultation was invited on the broad budget proposals. Where the implications of individual proposals were much wider for individuals affected by each proposal, further full and proper consultation was undertaken with people who would potentially be affected by individual budget proposals.

## **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 9 Acceptance of the grant will allow the funding to be used by the Council's commissioned drug and alcohol service to support residents with these needs.

## **Other Options Considered**

- 10 Not applicable

## **Implications and Comments**

### *Monitoring Officer/Legal*

- 11 Under section 2B of the National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended) the Council must take appropriate steps to improve the health of the people who live in their area and these steps may include –
  - (a) providing information and advice;

- (b) providing services or facilities designed to promote healthy living (whether by helping individuals to address behaviour that is detrimental to health or in any other way);
- (c) providing services or facilities for the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of illness;
- (d) providing financial incentives to encourage individuals to adopt healthier lifestyles;
- (e) providing assistance (including financial assistance) to help individuals to minimise any risks to health arising from their accommodation or environment;
- (f) providing or participating in the provision of training for persons working or seeking to work in the field of health improvement;
- (g) making available the services of any person or any facilities.
- (h) providing grants or loans (on such terms as the local authority considers appropriate).

The requirement for Council to approve the supplementary revenue estimate referred to above is in accordance with the Finance Procedure Rules in the Constitution.

Whereas it is anticipated that the grant in so far as it to be provided pursuant to section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 will be on standard terms, it would be prudent for the grant terms to be reviewed in due course by the Council's Legal team to ensure that there is awareness of any key provisions that the Council will need to comply with.

#### *Section 151 Officer/Finance*

- 12 The Drugs and Alcohol Service is in place to support the health of the local population and is fully funded by the ring-fenced Public Health grant received directly from Central Government. Acceptance of the grant will contribute to the overall budget for the service and have no impact on either the Council's current financial position or its existing Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

#### *Policy*

- 13 Financial management supports delivery of all Council policies. The 2025/26 forecast outturn position, ongoing considerations for future years, and the impact on general reserves will be fed into the assumptions underpinning the 2024 to 2028 Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

#### *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*

- 14 An equality impact assessment was completed as part of the recommissioning of the drug and alcohol service. Please see the committee report from January 2025 for further details.

### *Human Resources*

- 15 Not accepting the grant would require a re-modelling of the service. This would be likely to result in redundancies. This would require management through the provider's HR processes.

### *Risk Management*

- 16 Management of the service follows normal risk procedure including identification and mitigation of risks and escalation where required.

### *Rural Communities*

- 17 It is planned that the service will operate a hub and spoke model, ensuring access for those in rural areas through the provision of support, both on a physical and digital basis. Ongoing work is taking place with Care Communities to implement this.

### *Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)*

- 18 Young people have been involved in the coproduction of this service and specialist services for young people and their families will be provided. This includes targeted work to support care leavers and support for those with SEN and disabilities.

### *Public Health*

- 19 The recommissioning of the Drug and Alcohol Service has had involvement from the Public Health team throughout and has been developed in line with the Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Cheshire East 2023-2028, and the Cheshire East Substance misuse JSNA. Acceptance of the grant would support agreed plans.

### *Climate Change*

- 20 The design and delivery of the drug and alcohol service is underpinned by environmental and sustainability considerations.

<b>Access to Information</b>	
Contact Officer:	Nik Darwin, Senior Commissioning Manager  Nik.Darwin@cheshireeast.gov.uk
Appendices:	N/A
Background Papers:	Medium Term Financial Strategy <a href="https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/your_council/council_finance_and_governance/cheshire_east_budget/cheshire-east-budget-2024-25.aspx">https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/your_council/council_finance_and_governance/cheshire_east_budget/cheshire-east-budget-2024-25.aspx</a>  Substance Misuse Recommission report

	<a href="https://moderngov.cheshireeast.gov.uk/documents/s122083/Substance%20misuse%20recommission%20report%20Jan%20Committee%202025.pdf">https://moderngov.cheshireeast.gov.uk/documents/s122083/Substance%20misuse%20recommission%20report%20Jan%20Committee%202025.pdf</a>
--	---