

LEADER - OCTOBER 2020

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION AND AMENDED RECOMMENDATION

ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDING RELATING TO COVID-19

1. Reason for supplementary item

- 1.1. Subsequent to the despatch of this report, the Department of Health and Social Care have now published the allocations, updated guidance and grant conditions for the second tranche of the Infection Control Fund Grant. The Leader is requested to approve the allocation of funding of £2,357k as detailed below.

2. Amended recommendation

- 2.1. Leader is requested to approve the utilisation of
 - b) the second tranche of infection control funding of £2,357k.

3. Commentary

- 3.1. The grant conditions for the second tranche of this fund are in line with the original intentions of the grant as described in the first report, i.e. infection control measures to enable care staff to self-isolate and or minimise infection being spread through care workers visiting multiple residents and or care homes. The second tranche does however include the following change in requirements:

“local authorities should pass 80% of the first instalment of funding straight to care homes within the local authority's geographical area on a 'per beds' basis, and 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. This funding must only be used for the specific COVID-19 infection control measures specified in....” the grant conditions and guidance.

“The local authority has the discretion to target the allocation of the remaining 20% of the first instalment of funding on other COVID-19 infection control measures for the care sector, including supporting other care settings and wider workforce measures.”

- 3.2. It is proposed that 80% of the grant is allocated to providers as specified above and that delegated authority is given to Director of Adult Social Care in

consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Health to utilise the remaining 20% in accordance with the grant conditions.

3.3. In allocating the discretionary 20% of the grant priority is to be given to:

- Giving extra funds to care homes who can isolate residents with Covid symptoms and who can safely support residents who are Covid+ on hospital discharge or through other referral routes
- Giving more funds to domiciliary care providers to improve capacity in support of Winter and Covid Pressures
- Small grants to day care providers to enable them to open or make alternative day activities to residents and to give family and carer respite
- Other activities that will improve infection control capacity in support of helping people being care for in the community.