

## EXECUTIVE DECISION DAY NOTICE

Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health  
Decision Day & Executive Member for Younger Adults and Health  
and Wellbeing Decision Day

**Date and Time** Tuesday, 28th March, 2023 at 2.00 pm

**Place** Remote Decision Day

**Enquiries to** [members.services@hants.gov.uk](mailto:members.services@hants.gov.uk)

Carolyn Williamson FCPFA  
Chief Executive  
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UJ

## FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION

This decision day is being held remotely and will be recorded and broadcast live via the County Council's website.

## AGENDA

### **Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health**

#### **Deputations**

To receive any deputations notified under Standing Order 12.

#### **KEY DECISIONS (NON-EXEMPT/NON-CONFIDENTIAL)**

**1. LIVE-IN-CARE FOR COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (Pages 3 - 14)**

To seek spend approval from the Executive Lead Member for spend up to £5 million for the implementation of a new purchasing arrangement for Live-In Care Services through the development of a Short-Term Service Step Up Live-In Care contract over a 2-year period commencing from June 2023.

#### **NON KEY DECISIONS (NON-EXEMPT/NON-CONFIDENTIAL)**

**2. DLUHC FUNDED GRANTS TO TIER 2 AUTHORITIES TO DELIVER ELEMENTS OF THE WHOLE HOUSING APPROACH (Pages 15 - 24)**

To request Executive Lead Member approval for a grant scheme to Tier 2 Authorities in Hampshire to support domestic abuse accommodation provision. This is part of the duties for Hampshire County Council and Tier 2 Authorities under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

**3. APPOINTMENT TO AN OUTSIDE BODY: PARTNERSHIP BOARD**  
(Pages 25 - 26)

To make a County Councillor appointment to the Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust Board.

## **Executive Member for Younger Adults and Health and Wellbeing**

### **Deputations**

To receive any deputations notified under Standing Order 12.

### **NON KEY DECISIONS (NON-EXEMPT/NON-CONFIDENTIAL)**

**4. DEMAND MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION GRANT AWARD**  
(Pages 27 - 40)

To seek Executive Member approval for making a grant award to voluntary and community organisations as part of the Demand Management and Prevention Programme.

**5. ANNUAL CORE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR ORGANISATIONS** (Pages 41 - 54)

To seek Executive Member approval for making a grant award to voluntary and community organisations as part of our annual core infrastructure grants.

### **ABOUT THIS AGENDA:**

**On request, this agenda can be provided in alternative versions (such as large print, Braille or audio) and in alternative languages.**

### **ABOUT THIS SESSION:**

**The press and public are welcome to observe the public sessions of the decision day via the webcast.**

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
<b>Date:</b>	28 March 2023
<b>Title:</b>	Live-in-Care for Community Based Services
<b>Report From:</b>	Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Adults' Health and Care

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### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Provide a short overview of the Adults Health and Care Short Term Services (STS) Programme, both Bed Based and Home Based.
2. Seek spend approval from the Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health for spend up to £5 million for the implementation of a new purchasing arrangement for Live-In Care Services through the development of a Short-Term Service Step Up Live-In Care contract over a 2-year period commencing from June 2023.

### Recommendation

3. That the Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health give approval to spend up to £5million for a Short-Term Service Step Up Live-In Care tender on a 1+1 basis as set out in this report.

### Executive Summary

4. This report seeks to
  - Set out the background to the existing Short-Term Services Programme and highlight its impact on the overall performance of the County Council and the lives of Hampshire residents.
  - Consider the financial implications of the new proposed contract for Step Up Live-In Care

### Contextual information

5. In 2020, as a direct response to Covid-19 and NHS guidance (Hospital Discharge policy), Hampshire County Council was required to support the

rapid discharge of individuals from Acute Hospitals, within a targeted 4-hour window. Hampshire County Council commissioned three core services for the residents of Hampshire (Adults over the age of 18 years). The services had clear criteria and requirements for ways of working, longevity of stay and intended outcomes for the individual. All Short Stay Services were non chargeable to the individual for the period of their assessment.

6. The Short-Term Services consisted of (and continue to provide) three elements which were funded primarily via the Hospital Discharge Fund:
  - a) **Rapid Support Service (RSS)** – home based enabling and reabling domiciliary service for up to 28 days.
  - b) **Live in Care** – home based enabling and reabling Live in Carer service for up to 28 days.
  - c) **Short Term Service beds (Recovery and Assessment Suites)** – bed based enabling and reabling service in a Nursing Home for up to 28 days.
7. Hampshire Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board and Hampshire County Council agreed that, despite the cessation of the Hospital Discharge Fund in March 22 that the 3 Short Term Services remained an invaluable element of hospital discharge and prevention for Hampshire residents. The ability to support an assessment period, outside of an Acute environment, remains a national priority for the NHS. Funding for services and staffing resources were jointly agreed for 2022/23, with a shared ambition to continue working in a collaborative way and enable further efficiencies and benefits for the wider system and Hampshire residents through a longer term and more sustainable model.
8. Through April 2020 to present day, all 3 Short Term Services have continued at varying levels and currently provide over 230 STS beds, more than 3,500 hours a week of RSS and 55 Live in Carers. In 2022 nearly 6,000 Hampshire residents were supported through the Short-Term Services and of those, 64% remained or returned to their own home.
9. The outcomes for individuals supported through these services are a clear indicator that there are positive outcomes for Hampshire residents, their families and carers, Hampshire County Council and the HIOW ICB. These outcomes include a positive impact on physical or emotional health, stability in our care market through the managed flow of referrals and supporting our NHS services to meet the needs of those most vulnerable when required. This leads to wider positive impacts for Hampshire residents, enabling them to live well for longer and live safe, healthy, and happier lives.

#### **Short Term Services – Supporting a Step-Up Model of Care**

10. Built within the specifications of the Short-Term Services, is the ability for our Community Social Work teams to access the Short Term Services. This has been used regularly as a preventative measure, although hospital referrals will usually take precedence over community referrals.

11. Based on demand and evidenced outcomes, it was clear that a Short-Term Service model could be replicated as 'Step Up', for the Community Social Work teams.
12. A recommendation for Step Up beds was agreed and implemented in late 2022 and 30 'Step Up' beds were opened in October under a test and learn concept.
13. At present these beds are consistently and appropriately being used, with evidenced positive outcomes for individuals, including more people able to return home with no service required or a domiciliary package of care put in place. Those who have been moved to a long term placement are decided upon after a robust reabling assessment that identified that their care needs can no longer be met in their home.
14. The outcomes described above are assisted by the collaborative work that is undertaken with Community Health colleagues to offer a Multi-Disciplinary offer, including GP support, Therapeutic intervention and Community nursing intervention as required.

#### **Step Up Live-In Care Proposal:**

15. An extension of the current Live in Care (LIC) model to include Community Live-In Care Step Up is the next step towards a longer term, wider strategic position for Short Term Services to be used and accessed prior to any long-term service being put in place. In this way Hampshire County Council are moving towards offering a fully equitable service to all Hampshire residents who require a reablement opportunity as part of an assessment of their eligible needs.
16. Across the Directorate, the use of Live in Care in Hampshire has increased significantly since 2018/19. This increase in use is due to a range of reasons: the national and local push to maintain people in their own homes, loss of confidence in the Care Home market during the pandemic and least restrictive practice models emphasising home care over bed-based services. Most of this increase has been for a 'temporary' Live in Care service that is being used as an assessment at home model.
17. By replicating the principles, block managed funding and ways of working of the LIC discharge service within a step-up offer, we believe that we can reduce the volume of spot purchases overall, better managed spend and reduce the average length of stay in the service.
18. The Live-In Care Step down /discharge service has proved a valuable and cost-effective way to achieve positive and value-based outcomes for individuals and the public purse. In the last 6 months it has enabled 124 discharges with an average length of stay of 27 days and 61% of these individuals have remained at home with no care needs or a domiciliary care package only.
19. The new Step Up LIC arrangement would target a stay of up to 28 days through concentrated work in collaboration with our Social Care teams and Live-In Care Providers, support a robust cost avoidance model and would

seek to provide multi disciplinary links and interventions with Health colleagues.

20. The criteria to access the service would remain as per the Step down – individual whose needs may improve with the support of a multi disciplinary intervention prior to assessment of long term needs and service delivery.
21. Through the use of a Step-Up model for Live-In Care, we anticipate we can achieve:
  - A better financial position for the County Council by adding significant control in relation to initial spend on Live-In Care.
  - A shorter length of stay for residents while assessment of future needs is agreed – our target will be 28 days.
  - A concentrated period of assessment and the allocation of link workers within community teams to support the Step-Up model.
  - Better outcomes and more cost-effective long-term options for individuals.
  - Assurance that any eligibility under the Care Act Assessment is clear and evidenced.
  - Greater control over any long term LIC arrangements and the volume/cost of service provided alongside better market oversight/management.
  - Consistency in the Hampshire approach to sourcing and better quality/equitable service offered to Hampshire residents.
    - A core service model through which to enable closer working and engagement into intermediate care community models.
    - Replicate a model that we already have and we can evidence provides positive outcomes for the individual
  - A managed STS will avoid expensive and suboptimal outcomes for some individuals as it enables early planning for Social Work teams – we have excellent evidence of this in Step Up beds.

## **Finances**

22. The contract value included within this report is an estimate, based on the current pricing model for Live-in Care Services. The final price will be set by the provider (within a set range established by Hampshire County Council).

			<b>Minimum Tender cost 12 months</b>	<b>Maximum Tender cost 12 months</b>
Area	Number of proposed LIC packages	Potential increase to flex on demand	£900 per carer per week	£1200 per carer per week
SW	5	5	£468,000	£624,000
SE	5	5	£468,000	£624,000
NE	5	5	£468,000	£624,000
Mid/North	5	5	£468,000	£624,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>£1,872,000</b>	<b>£2,496,000</b>
			<b>+ 1 year extension: £ 3,744,000</b>	<b>+ 1 year extension: £4,992,000</b>

23. The prices indicated would incorporate additional costs such as carer breaks and food, which often are required as 'additional cost' under Spot purchasing, therefore the spend would not change throughout the length of the contract.
24. Using a baseline of 20 Live-In Carer's, we would expect capacity for at least 200 individuals to be moved through the Block in a 12-month period. Based on our current spend profile for long term Live-In Care, this could realise a saving of up to £3million against total current spend.
25. Even if it is assumed that we cannot improve upon the weekly cost we are paying for Spot Live-In Care, we will achieve a cost saving due to reducing length of stay in the Block service to the targeted 4 weeks.
26. The contract will can be applied for tender as a 12 month plus 12 months but also include 6-month review periods and a one-month notice period to ensure the contract can be ceased with speed if it is not proving cost efficient.
27. The learnings from this test and learn concept will inform future framework/contract needs for Live-In Care overall.

### **Charging**

28. Where services meet the definition of Intermediate Care, the Local Authority is not able to charge for up to 6 weeks.

## **Consultation and Equalities**

29. There has been no formal consultation carried out in relation to Step Up Live-In Care. Previous feedback has been gathered from individuals that have accessed short term services and this feedback back has been invaluable to make improvements to the services. A new STS survey has been developed and every individual who goes through an STS will have the opportunity to provide their feedback. Co-production is planned for late 2023/2024 and ongoing.
30. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is included within this report.

## **Climate Change Impact Assessment**

31. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.
32. Having reviewed the proposals against the decision-making tools, it has been identified that the service is moderately vulnerable to the impact of climate change, especially with respect to extreme weather be this heat, cold or flooding which may have an impact on the delivery of the STS.

## **Considerations and Risks**

33. There are currently no existing framework financial controls in place for long term Live-in Care in Hampshire aside from the Scheme of Delegation actioned by local Social Care managers and the Brokerage process. Therefore, market forces dictate the price on a case by case basis. With continued expected increase in the use of live-in care provisions, comes a potential significant increase in costs. This directly impacts on the Adult Health and Care budget and represents an increasing pressure. Therefore, the Step-Up Live-In Care model provides us with an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with the market and take an element of control and offer stability in relation to costs, as these will be agreed as part of the tender process. This also provides a gateway to ensure a smooth transitional process from STS through to long term provision.
34. As Live-in care provisions are currently spot purchased and managed through an individual service contract. This leaves both the individual and Hampshire County Council vulnerable, with no terms and conditions of service that can be enforced. Replicating the tender and due diligence process carried out for RSS and STS LIC will ensure that providers will meet the criteria that Hampshire County Council specify and will be contract managed to do so.
35. There are no clear guidelines in place for when live-in care should be used or not. This means there are both short term and long-term live-in provisions, with live-in care also being used for respite and "emergencies". Further



engagement is needed with operational colleagues to examine clear rationale for the use of Live-In care and further market engagement with providers is needed to look at the service delivery model moving forward.

36. It is estimated that by implementing a Short-Term Service Step Up Live-In Care model for Community Teams to access, under a block arrangement this will allow some stability around our spend and enable better outcomes for individuals and Hampshire County Council. This will also help to inform any potential new framework for live-in care alongside evidence from Step Down model already in place.
37. Growth in the private live-in care market means a potential for individuals with less savings but who own a property to access equity release on their Home but then require a provision paid for by Hampshire with a potential client contribution. Client contribution and self-funding rules attract a lower income for Hampshire County Council than Care Home placements do.

### **Conclusions**

38. This report has summarised the background to the Short-Term Services Programme and outlined the rationale for Hampshire County Council to develop a Step-Up Live-In Care Service for Community Social Work teams to access to carry out care assessment within an individual's home environment.
39. The report has considered the potential financial risks and impacts to Hampshire as well as any possible legal and financial implications.
40. The report has also provided details of the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) that has been produced in respect of the proposal.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u> Rapid Discharge Service and Discharge to Assess Live-in Care	<u>Date</u> 21-09-21
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

<b>Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents</b>	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

The Service and Change:

Service affected: Short Term Services Programme

Hampshire County Council Older Adults Short Term Services (STS) programme currently offers a safe environment, where dedicated staff work in partnership to enable individuals and their families time to think, recover and maximise independence. The project builds upon this to allow for rapid flow from hospitals to a care setting or support in an individual's own home for assessment of an individual's needs and support to become more independent. This is currently through the use of the Rapid Support Service, Short Term Services Live-In Care

and our bed based services located across 6 HCC Care sites for both hospital discharge and admission avoidance into hospital or placement (where possible).

Please explain the new/changed service/policy/project:

As part of the STS programme, Hampshire County Council now deliver Rapid Support Service, Short Term Live-In Care Service and Step-Down beds to support hospital discharge. We have also implemented Step Up beds that Community Social Work teams can access to carry out care act assessments. We want to provide a suite of options available for the residents of Hampshire, therefore we are looking to implement the Step-Up Live-In Care Service. Step Up Live In Care is currently awaiting approval from Executive Member. We are seeking approval for a 'test and learn' 1 year (with potential to extend) contract for Community Teams to access a block Live-In Care provision as an option to be able to complete a care act assessment within an individual's own home. This is a new service for Community, providing another option to individuals to access in order determine their long-term care requirements and needs.

Equality Considerations:

A survey was undertaken of service users from the pre-cursor project 'Discharge to Assess' in 2020 and 2021. From the feedback obtained, our Rapid Discharge Service was changed to Rapid Support Service to differentiate the discharge element from hospital to the service provided following. Our new survey moving forward within the Short Term Services programme, has been amended to a simpler format and accessible to all through paper format, digital and also audio - a dedicated contact number that someone will run through the questions and capture responses. General feedback gather throughout has provided us with good reasons to look to implement the Step-Up Live-In Care Service.

From a service perspective, Providers and Operational Teams are tailoring care requirements based on the needs of the individuals, both in regard to their care and their cultural needs. Through a stronger working relationship, Providers and Operational teams are communicating changes of need on a daily basis and adapting as and how they need to. One example being an individual that is Nepalese, the Reablement Team are working with translators to ensure that an accurate assessment is completed and understand the true care needs of the individual.

Impact Assessment:

**Age:**

Public Impact: Neutral

Staff Impact: Neutral

The development of Step Up Live-In Care for Community Based Services will have no disproportionate impact on the service user and staff because of their age

**Disability:**

Public Impact: Positive

Staff Impact: Neutral

The inclusion of the utilisation of TEC (Argenti) equipment within the project should improve access to the service and improve individuals journeys through the utilisation of these technological enhancements. An aspect of the programme is to review effectiveness of the Short Term requirements for individuals with dementia. The adoption of improved ways of working of care staff will improve such individuals journeys through the assessment and discharge cycles, either to home or long term care.

**Gender Reassignment:**

Public Impact: Neutral

Staff Impact: Neutral

No disproportionate impact with regards to peoples' gender reassignment identified because of the development of the Step Up Live-In Care Service for Community Based Services.

**Pregnancy & Maternity:**

Public Impact: Neutral

Staff Impact: Neutral

No anticipated changes to current public service user position expected through programme delivery however this is likely to provide a benefit as an aspect of the programme is to investigate the use of COBOTS within RSS/LIC and HCC Care environments. This may well provide a benefit through improved and assisted handling technology and techniques which will prevent less strain on the individual carer.

**Race:**

Public Impact: Positive

Staff Impact: Neutral

No anticipated changes to current public service user position expected through programme delivery however this is likely to provide a benefit as an aspect of the programme is to investigate the use of COBOTS within RSS/LIC and HCC Care environments. This may well provide a benefit through improved and assisted handling technology and techniques which will prevent less strain on the individual carer.

**Religion or Belief:**

Public Impact: Neutral

Staff Impact: Neutral

The development of Step Up Live-In Care for Community Based Services will have no disproportionate impact on the service user and staff because of their religion or beliefs

**Sex:**

Public Impact: Neutral

Staff Impact: Neutral

No disproportionate impact with regards to peoples' gender because of the development of the Step Up Live-In Care Service for Community Based Services.

**Sexual Orientation:**

Public Impact: Neutral

Staff Impact: Neutral

No disproportionate impact with regards to peoples' sexual orientation identified because of the development of the Step Up Live-In Care Service to for Community Based Service.

**Marriage & Civil Partnership:**

Public Impact: Neutral

Staff Impact: Neutral

No disproportionate impact with regards to peoples' marital status identified because of the development of the Step Up Live-In Care Service for Community Based Service.

**Poverty:**

Public Impact: Negative - Low

Staff Impact: Neutral

Step Up Live-In Care will be accessible for those that have a spare room available for a Live-In Carer to be able to reside in the individual's property.

**Mitigation:**

If an individual only has 1 bedroom, they may be able to access the Rapid Support Service as an interim measure in order to carry out a care act assessment or be placed in a Short Term Service Step Up bed to determine long term care requirements.

**Rurality:**

Public Impact: Positive

Staff Impact: Neutral

One of the key focus aspects of the programme is to enable individuals to remain within their homes prior to assessment for care needs.

The ability to receive planned Reablement services or Live in Care in their own homes will be a benefit for rurally isolated individuals with little or no access to transport.



## Executive Summary

5. This report sets out the background to the proposal to support the development of domestic abuse services at a local Tier 2 Authority level, in line with obligations on the County Council and Tier 2 Authorities under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
6. Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places a duty on Hampshire County Council to provide accommodation-based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation, and to improve the types of safe accommodation accessible to adults and children experiencing domestic abuse.
7. In April 2021, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) allocated £2,300,222 to the County Council with a further £2,306,590 allocated in 2022/23 to deliver the new statutory duty. In December 2022, confirmation was received that further allocations had been agreed of £2,352,731 for 2023/4 and £2,397,120 for 2024/5. In addition, all Tier 2 Authorities in Hampshire received circa £30,000 per annum in 2021/22 and 2022/23, and a similar allocation has been confirmed for 2023/24 and 2024/5.
8. The County Council's Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy (2021-2023) includes a commitment to deliver elements of the Whole Housing Approach (WHA). In addition, it identifies barriers to accessing service provision and gaps in service provision, particularly for victims with protected characteristics and/or victims from disadvantaged groups or who face multiple disadvantages.
9. The County Council recognises that Tier 2 Authorities will have their own strategic objectives around domestic abuse and they will have their own knowledge, expertise and local partnerships that will support the achievement of both the County Council's Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy and the Tier 2 Authorities' domestic abuse strategic objectives.
10. The proposed grant will enable activity, framed by the Whole Housing Approach, that will support the objectives of the Hampshire Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy. This could include:
  - Flexible Funding (direct payments to victims to support them to move away from domestic abuse).
  - An increase in the number and accessibility of dispersed accommodation units as an alternative to refuge accommodation.
  - Developing a Coordinated Community Response to address the needs of those under-served and under-represented populations (as identified in the Council's Domestic Abuse/Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment). This is a recognised approach adopted by the Hampshire Domestic Abuse



Partnership Board which seeks to bring services together to ensure local systems keep victims/survivors safe, hold abusers to account and prevent domestic abuse.

- Improving responses to the management of perpetrators.

11. This grant scheme would cover an initial two-year period from April 2023 until March 2025, with the potential to continue the scheme in line with additional funding anticipated from DLUHC.

12. This grant fund is to enable delivery of the second phase of our safe accommodation objectives. It follows the grant fund offer to Tier 2 Authorities to achieve Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) Accreditation. The phase 1 fund was approved by the Executive Lead Member for a total of £226,470 in 2022/23.

### **Contextual information**

13. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 seeks to raise awareness and understanding about the devastating impact of domestic abuse on victims and their families, further improve the effectiveness of the justice system in providing protection for victims of domestic abuse and bringing perpetrators to justice, along with strengthening the support for victims of abuse by statutory agencies.

14. Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act places a duty on Hampshire County Council to provide accommodation-based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation.

15. The County Council has a duty under the Act to assess the need and demand for safe accommodation and accommodation-based support and to subsequently develop and publish strategies, giving effect to these strategies by making commissioning decisions.

16. In April 2021, the DLUHC allocated £2,300,222 to the County Council with a further £2,306,590 allocated in 2022/23 to deliver the new statutory duty. In December 2022, confirmation was received that further allocations had been agreed of £2,352,731 for 2023/4 and £2,397,120 for 2024/5. In addition, all Tier 2 Authorities in Hampshire received circa £30,000 per annum in 2021/22 and 2022/23, and a similar allocation has been confirmed for 2023/24 and 2024/5.

17. There is a comprehensive spend plan in place for the DLUHC funding and allocating funding to Tier 2 Authorities in line with the Safe Accommodation Strategy is part of this plan.

18. The Whole Housing Approach is a nationally recognised framework for addressing the housing and safety needs of victims/survivors of domestic abuse in a local area. It aims to improve the housing options and outcomes for people experiencing domestic abuse so that they can achieve stable housing, live safely and overcome their experiences of abuse. (See Appendix 1 for further detail of the Whole Housing Approach).
19. Tier 2 Authorities as the housing authorities are fundamental to the successful implementation of the Whole Housing Approach. The County Council has previously made grant funding available for the housing teams within Tier 2 Authorities to follow the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) Accreditation process (which is one element of the Whole Housing Approach). DAHA Accreditation improves the housing sector's response to domestic abuse through the adoption of an established set of standards.
20. This second phase grant will allow Tier 2 Authorities as the housing authorities to deliver further elements of the Whole Housing Approach, including Flexible Funding, increase in dispersed accommodation as an alternative to refuge, developing a Coordinated Community Response, and improving responses to the management of perpetrators - all of which are part of the statutory Hampshire Safe Accommodation Strategy. It will also allow Tier 2 Authorities to develop housing options, support services and project-based work that improves the provision of domestic abuse support, particularly for victims with protected characteristics and/or who are facing multiple disadvantages. This could include but is not limited to working in partnership with local organisations that support the diverse and intersectional needs of victims/survivors and working with local 'by and for' services.
21. This grant fund would also facilitate delivery on the following ambitions of the Hampshire Public Health Strategy:
- Use a coordinated system approach to preventing domestic abuse and protect and support those affected by it
  - Work in partnership to ensure inclusive, quality, affordable, and appropriate safe accommodation support is available to all victims/survivors of domestic abuse, including their children.

## **Finance**

22. The proposed grant scheme is dependent on funding from DLUHC. The intention is to support all Tier 2 authorities to improve their local provision by accessing funding over a period of two years in accordance with the profile below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Grant scheme total budget (£)</b>
1: 2023/24	300,000
2: 2024/25	300,000
Total	600,000

23. It is intended that the allocation for each Tier 2 Authority will be calculated on the basis of population in line with the DLUHC allocation.

24. The plan above budgets an equal amount for year 1 and 2 as Hampshire County Council will receive the allocation from DLUHC on an annual basis. Tier 2 Authorities can apply for an allocation and this allocation will be made when Terms and Conditions are met. Tier 2 Authorities who do not apply in the first year are not precluded from applying in the second year. If Tier 2 Authorities meet or exceed the requirements, they can be allocated additional grants subject to availability of remaining funds from the total amount.

25. The grant scheme is intended to cover any costs that support the delivery of the Whole Housing Approach and addresses the needs of domestic abuse victims/survivors with protected characteristics and/or who are facing multiple disadvantages. The County Council will request each Tier 2 Authority to submit a written application outlining how they will utilise the grant within the limits of the proposed criteria and budget.

## **Performance**

26. Grant allocations will be allocated with the following expectations around the Whole housing Approach:

- Helping to identify victims/survivors earlier as indicated by:
  - An increase in cases where domestic abuse has been experienced for shorter time periods.
  - A reduction in cases made homeless because of domestic abuse.
  - Increase in options (e.g. tenancy sustainment, flexible funding, sanctuary scheme) so that people experiencing domestic abuse can remain safely in their home when it is their choice to do so.
- Improved information sharing practices and joined up working with other local services involved in the coordinated community response to domestic abuse. This includes local specialist domestic abuse services as well as those signed up to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC).
- Improved service user experience as evidenced by feedback (irrespective of need and indicating flexible approach according to need)

- Increased Tier 2 Authority housing staff confidence to ask about and respond to domestic abuse, resulting in reported higher staff job satisfaction.
- Tier 2 Authority housing staff experiencing domestic abuse report feeling better supported.
- Cost savings relating to a reduction in domestic abuse related repairs, arrears, and evictions.
- Number of victims/survivors accessing flexible funds to support them to become stably housed. These will be dispersed directly to survivors or as a payment on their behalf to support them to become and remain safe e.g. to a landlord, rent, utilities, childcare provider, employment, children's needs, transportation.
- Longer term dispersed accommodation would be offered to people with multiple disadvantages and co-morbidities.
- Development of joint-working arrangements between police and probation and housing so that perpetrators can be rehoused and are held to account.

## **Consultation and Equalities**

27. The proposed increase in capacity and capability to the Tier 2 Authorities will result in support being more accessible to victims with diverse backgrounds and including those groups identified as currently underserved by services e.g. males (with/without children); LGBTQ+; those with a disability; multiple disadvantages, families with older adolescents; those from diverse ethnic backgrounds; older adults, and people who have limited access to support services due to rurality.
28. This proposal has been developed through work with the County's Tier 2 Authorities, with the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, other Local Authorities, housing providers and domestic abuse providers.

## **Conclusions**

29. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Adult Services and Public Health approves the proposed grant scheme offer to Tier 2 Authorities to support them to deliver aspects of the Whole Housing Approach that best supports their local need and addresses the needs of victims/survivors with protected characteristics and/or who are facing multiple disadvantages, with the total offer of up to £600,000 for 2023/4 and 2024/5.
30. It is recommended that authority to approve the individual grant awards is delegated to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member.

31. It is recommended that the Executive Lead Member for Adult Services and Public Health delegates authority to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member, to approve continuation of the scheme and funding of grant awards beyond 2025, or ceasing of the scheme, taking into account anticipated funding received from DLUHC as outlined in this report.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	Yes
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	Yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	Yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	Yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u> Grants to Tier 2 Authorities utilising New Burdens Funding from the Department for Levelling up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) <a href="#">Decision Record.pdf (hants.gov.uk)</a>	<u>Date</u> 22 July 2022
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u> Domestic Abuse Act Part 4 (Safe Accommodation) <a href="#">Domestic Abuse Act 2021 (legislation.gov.uk)</a>	<u>Date</u> <b>2021</b>

<b>Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents</b>	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

2.1 The proposed increase in capacity and capability of Tier 2 authorities through the implementation of elements of the Whole Housing Approach and other locally identified project and programmes will improve housing services' response to groups identified in the County's 2021 Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Needs Assessment as vulnerable and where there are gaps in service: males (with/without children); LGBTQ+; those with a disability; multiple disadvantages, families with older adolescents; those from diverse ethnic backgrounds; older adults, and people who have limited access to support services due to rurality.

## Appendix 1: Whole Housing Approach

The following diagram illustrates the model and its twelve components. The green circles represent different forms of accommodation including the three main tenure types (social, private rented and private ownership) and temporary accommodation settings (refuge services, supported accommodation). The white circles are the housing options and initiatives designed to support victim/survivors of domestic abuse and provide the choice of remaining in a property or relocating to new accommodation.





## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	28 March 2023
<b>Decision Title:</b>	Appointment to an Outside Body: Partnership Board
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of People and Organisation

Contact name: Emma Cousins

Tel: 0370 779 5788 Email: emma.cousins@hants.gov.uk

#### 1. The decision (PROPOSED):

- a) In accordance with Part 1: Chapter 12 of the Constitution, that the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health be requested to make an appointment to the Partnership Board as detailed below. The term of office to expire at the County Council elections in May 2025 unless otherwise stated:

	<b>Name of Body</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Previous Representative</b>	<b>Appointments until County Council elections in May 2025</b>
1.	Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust Board  <u>Role:</u> Hampshire County Council representative	NHS Trust providing mental health, physical health and learning disability services across Hampshire.	Councillor Fran Carpenter	To be confirmed

#### 2. Reason for the decision:

- 2.1 To maintain County Council representation on bodies within the community.

#### 3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Not to make an appointment, which would cease County Council representation.

#### 4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5. **Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel:** None.

6. **Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent:** Not applicable.

7. **Statement from the Decision Maker:**

**Approved by:**

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**Councillor Liz Fairhurst  
Executive Lead Member for Adult Services and  
Public Health**

**Date: 28 March 2023**

## SHAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Younger Adults and Health and Wellbeing
<b>Date:</b>	28 March 2023
<b>Title:</b>	Demand Management and Prevention Grant Award
<b>Report From:</b>	Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Adults' Health and Care

**Contact name:** Sarah Snowdon  
Peter Stokes

**Tel:** 0370 779 1037

**Email:** [Peter.Stokes@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Stokes@hants.gov.uk)

#### **Purpose of this Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for making a grant award to the voluntary and community organisations outlined in this report as part of the Demand Management and Prevention Programme

#### **Recommendation(s)**

2. That approval be given by the Executive Member for the following actions:
  - i) To award grants totalling £71,891 to cover a range of time periods between April 2023 and September 2024 as part of the Local Solutions Fund (as detailed in appendix A).

#### **Executive Summary**

3. This report seeks to...
  - Set out the background to the grants
  - Set out the reason for the recommendations
  - Consider the finance for the project
  - Look at key issues

#### **Contextual information**

##### Background

4. The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) contributes to improving people's quality of life. The grants programme is one of the ways in which the County Council supports the sector to support people to live fuller more independent lives.

5. A voluntary organisation may be considered for grant aid from the County Council only if its services, projects or activities are in compliance with the aims and objectives, priorities and policies of the County Council.
6. Grants are awarded to support services that are better provided by the voluntary sector e.g. the mobilisation of community resources to help people at increased risk of requiring social care maintain their independence.
7. A grant is defined as a sum of money to support a particular activity. It does not usually cover the entire cost of the activity and it is legally considered to be a one-sided gift, rather than a payment in exchange for services.
8. Voluntary and community organisations provide valuable locally based services that are often rooted in the communities which they serve. Significant benefit is produced through this activity, often through voluntary action and focused towards activity that clearly assists in providing early intervention and prevention initiatives. Grant funding by the County Council contributes to, and helps sustain, this activity.
9. As grants are a contribution to service or activity costs the economic benefit to the department can be significant, leveraging in additional funding, the benefit of volunteer time and therefore providing good value for money to the authority.
10. Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold balances in excess of one year's running costs. Those organisations receiving recurring funding which hold in excess of three months' running costs, and where they cannot demonstrate through their reserves policy that these reserves are justified, may receive a reduced grant. To establish the level of reserves, organisations are required to provide a set of their latest accounts and annual report with their application and before grant payment is made – in the case of organisations with an income of £10,000 or above, these must be independently examined or audited. If organisations have reserves in excess of three months, we will apply the reserves policy which is in line with the Charity Commission's policy on these matters.

#### Demand and Prevention Programme

11. Prevention, incorporating Demand Management is one of the three key areas identified to achieve the Vision of Adults' Health and Care, as detailed in the Adult's Health and Care Strategy 2018.
12. The Demand Management and Prevention work will build on people's strengths, enabling them to improve their health and take more personal responsibility for looking after themselves with support from their family, friends and community network. The Council will encourage this by making the healthy choice the easy choice and developing accessible, inclusive and readily available information and advice services. The Council will also carry out targeted prevention work for certain groups of people who are most at risk of poor health to keep them well and to avoid or delay the need for social care services. The Council will work with partners, in particular the NHS, GPs and the Voluntary sector to achieve the above aims.

## Local Solutions Grant

13. It is recognised that across Hampshire there are local initiatives, support networks and services achieving positive outcomes for adults every day. A strength-based approach values these local provisions and seeks to enable them to further develop, be sustained and grow. This approach recognises that the County Council is often not the only, or the best, source of help for local people.
14. Local Solutions Grants seek to fund projects, which over time will reduce the demand seen on Hampshire County Council statutory services and support participants to live healthy and independent lives for as long as possible. Grants are awarded to projects operating in a specific location with one off funding given. All Local Solutions applicants are expected to demonstrate how the project will be sustained in the long term, beyond the life of the grant.
15. Services developed through the Local Solutions locality focused approach, are likely to enable early prevention support, as well as shaping options which may be attractive alternatives to some traditional services currently available for individuals, carers and families. The prioritisation of localities to focus upon within this approach has been informed by data on demographics, existing and projected social care demand, and feedback from stakeholders. This will help to ensure that local people have effective support available now and into the future.
16. The focus and criteria for each Local Solution Grant has been shaped by engagement with local stakeholders. This engagement has informed identification of the local priorities, the outcomes which are important to be achieved and the potential type of solution which could be developed. They are also aligned to the NHS programme to support self-management, which assists individuals to remain independent and minimising their need for social care. Some grants are more specific in what is being asked to be delivered and others outline more generally the focus of the change required. Across all, it will be looked for the successful bidder(s) to ensure local insight and expertise continue to shape the support and services as they further develop, in order to deliver positive outcomes. Local stakeholders and local Adult's Health and Care Community Teams were involved in the decision making to ensure that the grants recommended meet the community need.
17. In this paper Local Solutions grants are being proposed supporting older and other adults at risk or requiring social care with a range of bespoke solutions and services across numerous localities in Hampshire. The grants within this paper reflect the innovation, flexibility and project sustainability which are characteristic of Local Solutions application and full details of the grants being proposed are contained in Appendix A of this paper.

## **Grants for Consideration in Report (Additional Information in Appendix A)**

18. Koala Club (£29,891) – A project to support older adults with learning disabilities, autism and other spectrum disorders for an 18 month period of duration. The project will fund a case/support worker role who will work 1:1 with residents in an intensive way over a 10 week period of intervention to

build independent living skills, coping mechanisms and increase community connectivity.

19. Unity (£7500) – A project to provide targeted befriending to older adult residents experiencing with social isolation and loneliness across Test Valley District. Focus will be residents returning home from hospital and struggling to adjust to live back in their own homes and communities. A more active approach to befriending will be undertaken to link participants into their communities and other resources to ensure long term benefits beyond the life of any intervention.
20. Basingstoke Voluntary Action (£30,000) - A Project to create and extend a number of community builder posts across Basingstoke and surrounding areas to enhance community assets across the district. Using an asset based community development approach, project will build on the strength of local community assets with a focus on developing resident led sustainable local solutions to support older people across a number of wards within the Basingstoke district. Project is being coordinated by Basingstoke Voluntary Action and will involve an element of peer support and focus on building assets which benefit Older Adults and independent living.
21. Artwell (£4500) – A project providing therapeutic art interventions to residents with moderate mental health challenges, enabling them to better express themselves and build strength and coping strategies through a series of art workshops. Workshops will be user led but professionally delivered in order to maximise outcomes and enable participants to build a community of support across Winchester.

## **Finance**

22. The grant proposal in this report will commit additional expenditure totalling £71,891 over the financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25. Subject to approval of this report the total grants committed for payment will remain within the agreed, (2023/24 & 2024/25) annual budget envelopes for the Demand Management and Prevention Programme.
23. Payments will be made in 2 instalments for all grants approved in this report. All Grant Agreements have conditions that enable the County Council to require repayment of the award or any part of it if it remains unspent at the end of the grant period, or if there is a material breach of the grant agreement.

## **Performance**

24. The provision of grants to voluntary and community sector organisations by statutory bodies always presents a degree of risk. Specific risks that statutory bodies are required to manage include voluntary and community organisations accepting funding without providing any activity; organisations not delivering the service as expected; and there being an under spend on the expected activity. This applies to all grants however; larger grants represent a potentially higher risk to the County Council.

25. A number of mechanisms have been employed successfully over a number of years to mitigate and alleviate these risks. These include nominating a liaison officer from the County Council whose responsibility is to monitor how the grant is spent, specifying within the grant agreement that the grant is 'restricted' funding for the provision of the specified activity only and phasing the payment of grants over the course of the award duration.
26. A comprehensive evaluation assessment tool has been developed and is in use for the beneficiaries of previous grant rounds, ensuring consistency of data capture.
27. All organisations awarded a grant sign a declaration stating they accept that grant funding can only be awarded for the given period and no commitment exists from the County Council to continue funding after this time, or in subsequent years.

### **Consultation and Equalities**

28. It is for the Executive Member as decision maker to have due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
29. All grants included for consideration in this report represent additional facilities and services for those they serve and a full Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed to capture the benefits for each group.

### **Climate Impact Assessment**

30. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.
31. A full assessment of climate change vulnerability was not completed as the initial vulnerability assessment showed that the project is at minimal risk from the climate vulnerabilities because the projects delivered will be operated from premises not owned by the County Council or the organisation in receipt of the grant.

### **Conclusions**

32. The Local Solutions Grant continues to offer local organisations in the voluntary and community sector, the opportunity to fund their projects to the benefit of local residents in a local way to address the specific needs of communities in each district. The grants proposed in this paper have a range of benefits and outcomes but all seek, as a minimum to reduce social isolation and loneliness and connect participants to their local communities and support networks.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	no
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	no
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u> Demand Management and Prevention Grant Award Demand Management and Prevention Grant Award Demand Management and Prevention Grant Award	<u>Date</u> January 2022 July 2022 October 2022
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

<b>Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents</b>	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	



## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

The award of grants to the voluntary and community sector to support people to live long, healthy and happy lives with the maximum possible independence, as part of the demand management and prevention programme and in-line with Adult's Health and Care Strategy 2018.

Grants in this paper:

Local Solutions Grants, covering the districts of Basingstoke and Deane, Eastleigh, Test Valley and Winchester - period February 2023 – September 2024.  
Total Pot: £71,891

**Geographical impact:** Grants in this paper are recommended for award, which if approved will provide additional services, beyond what is already available in the districts of: Basingstoke and Deane, Eastleigh, Test Valley and Winchester.

**Proposed Change:** The grants proposed in this paper all represent new services which were not previously funded and therefore are of additional benefit to those they seek to serve.

One grant held within the report (Unity Ltd) has been proposed in order to support another grant funding project which is ongoing but has exceeded capacity and so the funding of this project will positively impact another Hampshire County Council Project

The Local Solutions fund continues to offer funding to projects which support a diverse range of Hampshire residents, and does so in collaboration with Social Care Teams, health partners and the community and voluntary sector.

As a result of the proposals contained within this Executive Member Decision Report we do not anticipate any changes to service provision, rather these are extensions to existing services or new services which were not previously available.

**Will the proposed project/service change affect people in the protected characteristics groups or any of the other groups for consideration? No**

**Who does this impact assessment cover?: All**

**Has engagement or consultation been carried out?: Yes**

**Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform:**

The Local Solutions Grant application process is designed to enhance collaboration between HCC and the applicant every step of the way. Throughout the application process, the grants within this paper were shaped in order to ensure the outcomes proposed align with the Adults Health strategy and deliver the maximum benefit for participants.

A key focus for DM&P at the current time is building and strengthening relationships with the local districts across Hampshire. The individual districts have been consulted with on each project which impacts their locality for their thoughts and suggestions to ensure the maximum benefit across multiple levels of Local Government.

Finally various HCC teams have been involved with the shaping of the projects outlined in this report. An example of this is the Koala Club project which has been created in collaboration with our LD Team in order to maximise the benefits for participants and for Hampshire County Council.

**Age public impact:** Positive

**Age staff impact:** Neutral

**Assessment Rationale:** All projects suggested for funding have a primary target audience of Older Adults (70+), though will also be supporting those who meet the criteria in younger age demographics.

As an example the Unity project specifically seeks to support adults 70+, recently discharged from hospital and struggling to adjust to life back in their homes. This project was created out of a need identified due to an over subscription in one of our other services and supported by our Health partners and Teams who identified a lack of this provision in the Test Valley area.

The Koala Club project supports residents with learning disabilities (LD from this point on in the EIA) and it was agreed with our LD colleagues that in this demographic older adults would refer to anyone in the 45+ age group in order to maximise the support given to specific needs within this community. Furthermore this project will support unpaid carers of participants, many of which will fall into the traditional definition of Older Adults (70+), supporting independent living to reduce the support requirements on unpaid carers.

**Disability social impact:** Positive

**Disability staff impact:** Neutral

**Assessment Rationale:** All projects recommended for funding in this paper are open to residents with disabilities in order to provide additional support to what is already available in the community.

The Koala Club project specifically supports residents with disabilities in a more intensive way than what is currently available and aims to boost independent living skills, coping mechanisms and link participants to other resources in the community to ensure long term benefits. Lower level support is currently available but this new project will enable us to trial whether a more intensive intervention will improve outcomes for those taking part and feed into future HCC decisions. The Unity project supports people at point of discharge from hospital. Many of the participants of this project may leave hospital with disabilities they did not have when they entered or may be experiencing increase frailty as a result of an extended hospital stay. The project seeks to support and connect those it works with to their communities to help people rebuild and reintegrate once they return to their homes.

**Sexual orientation public impact:** Neutral

**Sexual orientation staff impact:** Neutral

**Assessment rationale:** Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of sexual orientation. There is no evidence

the that projects funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so is impact has been assessed as neutral.

**Race social impact:** Neutral

**Race staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of race. There is no evidence the that projects funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so is impact has been assessed as neutral.

**Religion or belief social impact:** Neutral

**Religion or belief staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of religion or belief. There is no evidence the that projects funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so is impact has been assessed as neutral.

**Gender reassignment public impact:** Neutral

**Gender reassignment staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of gender reassignment. There is no evidence the that projects funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so is impact has been assessed as neutral.

**Sex public impact:** Neutral

**Sex staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment rationale: Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of sex. There is no evidence the that projects

funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so is impact has been assessed as neutral.

**Marriage or civil partnership: Neutral**

**Marriage or civil partnership: Neutral**

Assessment Rationale: Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of marriage or civil partnership status. There is no evidence the that projects funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so is impact has been assessed as neutral.

**Pregnancy and maternity public impact: Neutral**

**Pregnancy and maternity staff impact: Neutral**

Assessment rationale: Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to those who need support irrespective of pregnancy or maternity. There is no evidence the that projects funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so is impact has been assessed as neutral.

**Poverty public impact: Positive**

**Poverty staff impact: Neutral**

Assessment Rationale: The proposed Koala Club project will support participants with budgeting and financial management advice as part of the independent living skills they seek to boost in those who participate. Financial management has been identified as one of the key skills which enable those with learning disabilities to live a more independent life and this project seeks to address this in a targeted way.

**Rurality public impact: Neutral**

**Rurality staff impact: Neutral**

Assessment rationale: Whilst none of the projects recommended for funding specifically support people within this defined characteristic, they are all open to

those who need support irrespective of rurality. There is no evidence that projects funded will have a disproportionate impact or benefit for those within this characteristic so its impact has been assessed as neutral.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **LOCAL SOLUTIONS GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS BY AREA**

#### **Grant 1**

**Organisation:** Koala Club

**Project Title:** Support To Success

**Area:** Test Valley

**Amount:** £29,891 (Duration 12-18 months, dependent on the volume of referrals)

**Project Description:** Project will fund a case/support worker post who will work on a 1:1 basis with residents with a range of learning disabilities, autism and other spectrum disorders to build independent living skills, coping strategies and community engagement. Provision differs to that which is currently available by providing a more intensive approach with participants receiving 10 weeks of 1:1 support in addition to group sessions which will also be run. Focus will be on delivering for residents 45+ and will support will be directed towards those who will most likely benefit from the provision in order to maximise outcomes. Alongside the benefits to the individuals who participate in the project the proposed monitoring of the project will also enable Adults Health and Care to understand in more detail which groups benefit the most from more targeted intensive support provision in order to shape future services.

#### **Grant 2**

**Organisation:** Unity

**Project Title:** Befriending Connections

**Area:** Test Valley District

**Amount:** £7500 (Duration 12 months)

**Project Description:** Project to provide targeted befriending to those impacted by social isolation and loneliness. Referrals will be delivered from Hampshire County Council, voluntary sector partners and Social Prescribers, open to all needing support but primarily focussed on residents recently discharged from hospital and struggling to adjust to life back in their own home. Support will be limited, in most instances to 12 weeks, during which connections will be made to community resources, activities and support with a more active approach than seen with many traditional befriending services.

### **Grant 3**

**Organisation:** Basingstoke Voluntary Action

**Project Title:** Community Builder Project

**Area:** Basingstoke and Deane District

**Amount:** £30,000 (Duration 12 months)

**Project Description:** Project to create and extend a number of community builder posts across Basingstoke and surrounding areas to enhance community assets across the district. Using an asset based community development approach, project will build on the strength of local community assets with a focus on developing resident led sustainable local solutions to support older people across a number of wards within the Basingstoke district. Partnership working is a key element of the project with community centres, ICB, CVS infrastructure organisations and faith based providers coming together to support adults health and care priorities. Project is being coordinated by Basingstoke Voluntary Action and will involve an element of peer support and focus on building assets which benefit Older Adults and independent living.

### **Grant 4**

**Organisation:** Artwell

**Project Title:** Artistic Intervention

**Area:** Winchester District

**Amount:** £4500 (Duration 9 months)

**Project Description:** A project providing therapeutic art interventions to residents with moderate mental health challenges, enabling them to better express themselves and build strength and coping strategies through a series of art workshops. Workshops will be user led but professionally delivered in order to maximise outcomes and enable participants to build a community of support across Winchester.

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## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Younger Adults and Health and Wellbeing
<b>Date:</b>	28 March 2023
<b>Title:</b>	Annual core infrastructure grants to Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations
<b>Report From:</b>	Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Adults' Health and Care

**Contact name:** Sarah Snowdon  
Peter Stokes

**Tel:** 0370 779 1037

**Email:** [Peter.Stokes@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Stokes@hants.gov.uk)

### Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for making a grant award to the voluntary and community organisations outlined in this report as part of our annual core infrastructure grants in support of the voluntary and community sector organisations.

### Recommendation(s)

2. That approval be given by the Executive Member for Younger Adults and Health and Wellbeing for the following actions:
  - i) To award a grant totalling £495,990 to Community First Wessex for the financial year 2023/24 as part of the Infrastructure Grants programme in support of the Hampshire Councils for the Voluntary Sector Network (CVS Network)
  - ii) To award a grant totalling £63,000 to Citizens Advice Hampshire for the financial year 2023/24 as part of the Infrastructure Grants programme in support of the Citizens Advice Network.

### Executive Summary

3. This report seeks to...
  - Set out the background to the grants
  - Set out the reason for the recommendations
  - Consider the finance for the project and the management of outcomes and returns
  - Look at key issues

## Contextual information

### Background

4. The County Council recognises the vital contribution of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) to delivering its Strategic Plan and goals, in particular, preventing and managing demand for County Council services. To support a vibrant and sustainable sector within Hampshire, the County Council sees an ongoing role for effective local infrastructure organisations – for example, in providing advice, building capacity, attracting funding, supporting financial resilience, brokering partnerships and providing a collective voice for the sector.
5. The importance and value of the work delivered by the VCSE in Hampshire was visibly demonstrated during the Covid-19 pandemic and continues, with significant support being given to Hampshire residents and organisations impacted by the rise in the cost of living and ongoing inflationary pressures.
6. In addition to specific funding, grant awards to individual organisations through numerous grant streams, the County Council corporately supports the vibrancy and sustainability of the VCSE in Hampshire through infrastructure support funding. Infrastructure support is concerned with but not limited to:
  - identifying needs and facilitating improvement in service provision across the Sector – to promote efficiency and reduce duplication;
  - assisting local organisations to function more effectively – enabling them to successfully meet their charitable objectives and secure sustainability;
  - facilitating effective communication, networking and collaboration amongst local groups and communities, including by promoting and developing voluntary action; and
  - supporting local organisations to influence policies, plans and practices that have an impact on their organisations and beneficiaries and, ensuring there is a strong voice for the Sector.
7. The County Council supports the infrastructure of Hampshire's VCSE through funding to the Hampshire Councils for the Voluntary Sector (CVS) Network. This network comprises eight organisations which cover the whole of the county. Currently Community First Wessex is funded by the County Council (for financial year 2022/23) as the single grant funded organisation to oversee the infrastructure grant award and associated requirements. Community First Wessex then works in close partnership with the other seven CVSs, passing on funding and working with them to achieve specific outcomes set out in the grant agreement.
8. The County Council also retains a longstanding partnership with Citizens Advice Hampshire (CitAH) in a separate infrastructure grant (also funded through financial year 2022/23). CitAH delivers training and development to paid employees and volunteers across 12 local Citizens Advice offices. It also provides specialist advice lines on employment and welfare and maintains a

single point of contact between local Citizens Advice and wider strategic partners.

9. Provision of Infrastructure Grants has taken place over a number of previous financial years with these grants advertised and awarded in line with the current grants process. This includes a robust scoring framework that ensures the grants are awarded to the most appropriate organisation. A voluntary organisation may be considered for grant aid from the County Council only if its services, projects or activities are in compliance with the aims and objectives, priorities and policies of the County Council.
10. Organisations will not normally be eligible for grants where they hold balances in excess of one year's running costs. Those organisations receiving recurring funding which hold in excess of three months' running costs, and where they cannot demonstrate through their reserves policy that these reserves are justified, may receive a reduced grant. To establish the level of reserves, organisations are required to provide a set of their latest accounts and annual report with their application and before grant payment is made – in the case of organisations with an income of £10,000 or above, these must be independently examined or audited. If organisations have reserves in excess of three months, we will apply the reserves policy which is in line with the Charity Commission's policy on these matters.

### **Finance**

11. The grant proposals in this report will commit additional expenditure totalling £558,990 over one financial year (2023/24). Subject to approval of this report the total grants committed for payment will remain within the agreed, 2023/24 annual budget envelope for the Demand Management and Prevention Programme.
12. In recognition of the challenging financial context that the County Council is operating within, the funding suggested in this paper is frozen at the levels applied in 2022/23. Officers will continue to work with the organisations in order to identify efficiencies in order to continue to deliver the service despite the inflationary pressures seen in the previous 12 months.
13. Payments will be made in 2 instalments for all grants approved in this report. All Grant Agreements have conditions that enable the County Council to require repayment of the award or any part of it if it remains unspent at the end of the grant period, or if there is a material breach of the grant agreement.

### **Performance**

14. The provision of grants to voluntary and community sector organisations by statutory bodies always presents a degree of risk. Specific risks that statutory bodies are required to manage include voluntary and community organisations accepting funding without providing any activity; organisations not delivering the service as expected; and there being an under spend on the expected activity. This applies to all grants however; larger grants represent a potentially higher risk to the County Council.

15. A number of mechanisms have been employed successfully over a number of years to mitigate and alleviate these risks. These include nominating a liaison officer from the County Council whose responsibility is to monitor how the grant is spent, specifying within the grant agreement that the grant is 'restricted' funding for the provision of the specified activity only and phasing the payment of grants over the course of the award duration.
16. Both organisations being suggested for award are longstanding partners of Hampshire County Council and were the recipient of the respective grants in the previous financial year. A robust working relationship exists between the Liaison Officer and the organisation in both instances and it is envisaged that this will continue in the event of the grants being approved for the next financial year.
17. All organisations awarded a grant sign a declaration stating they accept that grant funding can only be awarded for the given period and no commitment exists from the County Council to continue funding after this time, or in subsequent years.
18. Whilst past performance is not a guarantee of future outcomes, listed in appendix A of this report is a summary of the performance of the CitAH grant funded project for the past year. Adults Health and Care monitor the CVS Network grant award on a more regular basis which is reflective of the higher amount of funding, the frequency of monitoring is detailed in section 19 below.
19. The County Council maintains ongoing, open dialogue with both the Hampshire CVSs and CitAH regarding delivery against the agreed grant purpose documents. Monitoring includes regular monitoring meetings between the Assistant Chief Executive and representative CEOs from the Hampshire CVSs and the CEO of CitAH with additional reporting requirements outlined below;

### **Hampshire Councils For The Voluntary Sector Network**

- Reporting will be delivered on a quarterly basis, with updates focussed on the support provided within the sector and outcomes on support previously given
- Monthly meetings will be held with the lead CVS organisation to discuss performance
- A separate quarterly meeting will be held with the heads of all 8 CVS organisations to discuss sector issues and opportunities and evaluate how the grant is performing in terms of support across the network
- On a 6 monthly basis a meeting will be held between the lead CVS organisation and the Director of Adults Health and Care to discuss performance against the outcomes set forth in the Infrastructure Grant proposal.

## **Citizens Advice Hampshire**

- Quarterly reporting pack will be delivered outlining performance against a number of pre agree metrics, including but not limited; number of clients supported and the amount of additional benefits income realised as a result of support given.
- Quarterly meetings to be held to discuss performance against expectations and issues/ opportunities seen.

## **Consultation and Equalities**

20. It is for the Executive Lead Member as decision maker to have due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
21. All grants included for consideration in this report represent additional facilities and services for those they serve and a full Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed to capture the benefits for each group.

## **Climate Impact Assessment**

22. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.
23. A full assessment of climate change vulnerability was not completed as the initial vulnerability assessment showed that the project is at minimal risk from the climate vulnerabilities because the projects delivered will be operated from premises not owned by the County Council or the organisation in receipt of the grant.

## **Conclusions**

24. The continued funding of the Core Infrastructure Grants will enable to respective organisations to continue to offer local organisations the support they need to continue to provide services valuable to residents across Hampshire. The grants proposed in this paper will fund, for an additional year the services outlined and ensure that's local voluntary and community organisations are supported through the increase in cost of living, inflationary pressures and associated increases in demand for their services.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	No
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	Yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	No
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	Yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Annual Core Infrastructure Grants to Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations	18 March 2022
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

<b>Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents</b>	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

The award of grants to the voluntary and community sector to support people to live long, healthy and happy lives with the maximum possible independence, as part of the demand management and prevention programme and in-line with Adult's Health and Care Strategy 2018. Infrastructure Grants provide direct support to organisations, who in turn support other voluntary and community organisations in delivering services to residents of Hampshire and ensuring a strong voice for the sector.

Grants in this paper:

Core Infrastructure Grants which deliver provision on a county-wide basis, period April 2023 – March 2024. Total Pot: £558,990

**Geographical impact:** Grants in this paper are recommended for award on a county-wide basis.

**Proposed Change:** The Grants held within this report have been awarded in previous years. The proposal made within the report is to continue these grants with the same amount of funding as in financial year 2022/2023. The proposed grant projects will run for the duration of financial year 2023/24 and will represent a continuation of the service currently offered.

The Core Infrastructure Grants, whilst funding 2 specific organisations will, through the outcomes envisaged, support a diverse range of organisations across the county in a variety of ways. The CitAH grant, whilst not only directly supporting the district level Citizens Advice organisations will also directly support those in financial hardship poverty.

As a result of the proposals contained within this Executive Member Decision Report we do not anticipate any changes to service provision, rather these are a continuation of existing services provided in the previous financial year.

**Will the proposed project/service change affect people in the protected characteristics groups or any of the other groups for consideration? No**

**Who does this impact assessment cover?: All**

**Has engagement or consultation been carried out?: Yes**

**Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform:**

Both of the grants detailed in this report were awarded in the previous financial year. Engagement undertaken includes but is not limited to, discussions with local organisations throughout the year on the level of support they have seen from the lead organisations, discussions with Adults Health and Care Teams around the value the grants have to the work they undertake and regular monitoring which measures the monetary value to residents that the CitAH grant in particular delivers.

**Age Public Impact:** Positive

**Age Staff Impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst this is a continuation of provision, awarding the grants within this paper will enable Citizens Advice Hampshire (CitAH from here on in this EIA) and Community First Wessex to offer support and advice to new organisations and individuals across the County.

Community First Wessex supports the Council for Voluntary Services (CVS from here on in this EIA) Network support a diverse range of Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations many of which support older adults to remain independent and connected to their communities. The continuation of this grant will enable the associated support to continue, with a focus being on supporting older adults organisations with the challenges of rising costs and inflationary pressures, ensuring they are sustainable and able to continue to operate.



**Disability social impact:** Positive

**Disability staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst this is a continuation of provision, awarding the grants within this paper will enable CitAH and the CVS Network to offer support and advice to new organisations and individuals across the County.

CitAH and the wider Citizens Advice network work closely with a large number of residents with disabilities, supporting them to get the financial and benefits support they are entitled to; in the last year 50% of the residents supported have had a disability or a long term health condition. It is anticipated with the rise in the cost of living that there will be an increase in the number of clients with disabilities that the network will supporting in the coming year and the awarding of the grants within this paper will enable that work to continue and scale to meet the demand.

**Sexual orientation public impact:** Neutral

**Sexual orientation staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst we do not have data on the benefits seen by those who come within the sexual orientation characteristic there is no evidence that the grants being awarded will have a disproportionate impact on this group and so a neutral rating has been assigned.

**Race social impact:** Positive

**Race staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. In the last financial year the CitAH grant found that 13% of the users of the service they offered identified as being from a black or ethnic minority background, this is significantly higher than the 7.4% which identified as black or from a minority ethnic group across Hampshire at the last census. With the continuation of this grant likely to continue to disproportionately and positively impact residents identifying as black or minority ethnic group the impact has been assessed as Positive

**Religion or belief social impact:** Neutral

**Religion or belief staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst we do not have data on the benefits seen by those who come within the

religion or belief characteristic there is no evidence that the grants being awarded will have a disproportionate impact on this group and so a neutral rating has been assigned.

**Gender reassignment public impact:** Neutral

**Gender reassignment staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst we do not have data on the benefits seen by those who come within the gender reassignment characteristic there is no evidence that the grants being awarded will have a disproportionate impact on this group and so a neutral rating has been assigned.

**Sex public impact:** Positive

**Sex staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment rationale: Last financial year the CitAH grant supported a significant number of residents with 54% of those supported identifying as female. This is significantly higher than the 51% of residents across Hampshire who identified as female at the last census and we envisage the project across 2023/24 to continue to disproportionately and positively impact women and so have allocated a positive impact assessment.

**Marriage or civil partnership:** Neutral

**Marriage or civil partnership:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst we do not have data on the benefits seen by those who come within the marriage or civil partnership characteristic there is no evidence that the grants being awarded will have a disproportionate impact on this group and so a neutral rating has been assigned.

**Pregnancy and maternity public impact:** Neutral

**Pregnancy and maternity staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst we do not have data on the benefits seen by those who come within the pregnancy and maternity characteristic there is no evidence that the grants being awarded will have a disproportionate impact on this group and so a neutral rating has been assigned.

**Poverty public impact:** Positive

**Poverty staff impact:** Neutral

Assessment Rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst this is a continuation of provision, awarding the grants within this paper will enable CitAH and the CVS Network to offer support and advice to new organisations and individuals across the County.

CitAH and the wider Citizens Advice network work closely with a growing number of residents across the county, supporting them with financial and debt management and access to benefits where they are entitled to them. It is anticipated with the rise in the cost of living that there will be an increase in the number of clients seeking support from the Citizens Advice Network in the coming year and the grants outlined in this report will support the local Citizens Advice organisations to be able to meet this demand.

**Rurality public impact:** Neutral

**Rurality staff impact:** Neutral

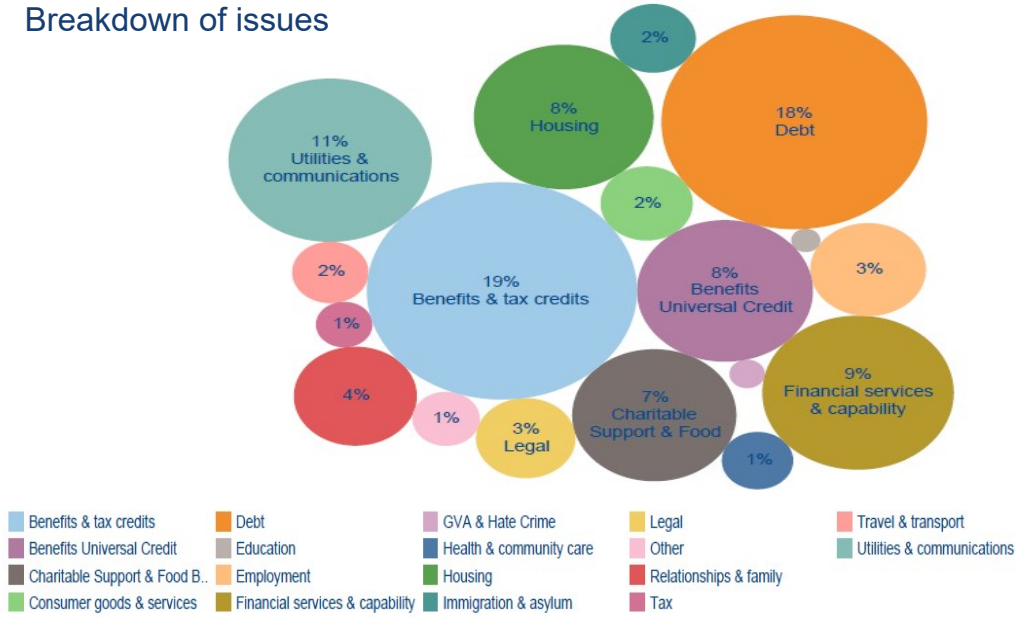
Assessment rationale: The grants recommended for award within this paper represent a continuation of services provided over the previous financial year. Whilst we do not have data on the benefits seen by those who come within the rurality characteristic there is no evidence that the grants being awarded will have a disproportionate impact on this group and so a neutral rating has been assigned.

# APPENDIX A

## Previous Project Outcomes

### Citizens Advice Hampshire

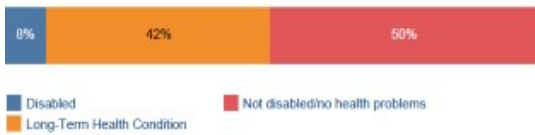
#### Breakdown of issues



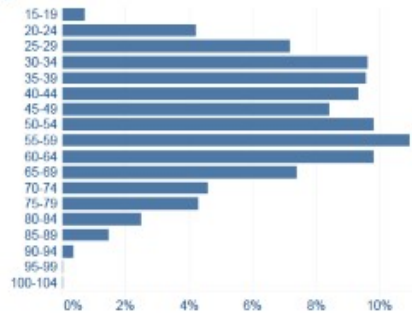
#### Gender



#### Disabled / Long term health condition



#### Age

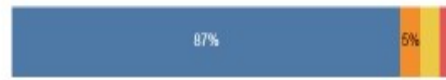


Type of disability (% of disabled clients)



- Speech Impairment
- Mental Health
- Physical Impairment (non-sensory)
- Other Disability or Type Not Given
- Multiple Impairments
- Learning Difficulty
- Visual Impairment
- Hard of hearing
- Deaf
- Cognitive Impairment

Ethnicity



- White
- Black
- Other
- Asian
- Mixed

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