

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
Date:	16 July 2024
Title:	Savings Programme 2025: Reducing the Hampshire County Council contribution to Wellbeing Centres
Report From:	Director of Adults' Health and Care

Contact name: Jessica Hutchinson

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1. The decision:

1.1 That the Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health provides approval to reduce the Hampshire County Council annual contribution to Wellbeing Centres by £656,777 per annum (£1,695,025 over the remaining total life of the contract to August 2027 if extension options were taken) and to modify the relevant contract as set out in the report.

2. Reasons for the Decision

2.1 This report follows the 'Making the Most of your Money' Stage 1 Consultation in July 2023, the Executive Member decision on the 19 September and the meeting of the full County Council on the 9 November 2023 where Hampshire County Council's medium term financial strategy and the Directorate's savings proposals for 2025 were approved subject to further consultation and executive decision making where necessary.

2.2 The Wellbeing Services are currently commissioned by Hampshire County Council in partnership with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (HIOWICB) and Frimley ICB. People do not need to have Care Act eligible needs to access the service. There is no specific legal duty for the County Council to provide the service or fund the service.

2.3 The reduction of funding for Mental Health Wellbeing Services in Hampshire would involve reducing the annual contribution of Hampshire County Council from £1,281,777 to £625,000 and reducing the overall contract value from £4,944,152 to £4,287,375 per annum.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1 To not reduce the annual contribution. This option has not been considered and rejected because it is essential to remember that the County Council is legally bound to deliver a balanced budget.

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: Not applicable

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:

The Executive Lead Member thanked Sally Arscott for making a deputation to highlight the concerns of the provider Hampshire Mind regarding the impact of reducing the funding for these services. However, on balance the Executive Lead Member chose to go ahead with the decision due to the need to balance the budget and focus available funding on statutory responsibilities and the most vulnerable.

Approved by:

Date:

16 July 2024

Councillor Liz Fairhurst
Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public
Health