

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health
Date:	16 June 2022
Title:	Adult Social Care: Outcome of the Savings Programme to 2023 Public Consultation
Report From:	Director of Adults' Health and Care

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1. The decision:

That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health:

For Adult Social Care Grants

- 1.1 Approves the ceasing of the following Adult Social Care Grant Schemes, thereby contributing £320,000 of savings towards (SP23) the savings programme to 2023:
 - a. the Neighbourhood Care and Support grant scheme;
 - b. the Community based Support Grant scheme; and
 - c. the Rural Connections grant scheme
- 1.2 That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health notes that robust monitoring of the impact of any or all of the proposed changes will be established and enacted so that officers and providers can respond with any appropriate mitigation(s) as required.
- 1.3 As per the request by HASC, updates on our work with voluntary and community sector organisations to secure other forms of grant support will be provided on request.

For Social Inclusion

- 1.4 Approves the strategy for delivering homelessness services in Hampshire as detailed in this report and the reduction in Hampshire's funding of £360,000 for homelessness services from April 2023.
- 1.5 Subject to recommendation 1.4 being approved, gives approval to spend up to £6.3million for a period of up to 3 years on the delivery of homelessness services as set out in this report from April 2023.
- 1.6 Delegates authority to the Director for Adults' Health and Care to finalise total spend, delivered through either procured contracts or grants up to the

amount outlined above following any decisions made by Districts and Boroughs with regards to possible contributions towards homelessness services.

- 1.7 Notes that the above proposed spend is based on anticipated District/ Borough contributions and is subject to decisions by District/ Borough Councils.
- 1.8 Gives approval to awarding grants to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, New Forest District Council and Winchester City Council subject to their decision-making processes, for a period of up to 3 years, up to a maximum annual value of:
 - Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council £376,000
 - New Forest District Council £36,000
 - Winchester City Council £24,500
- 1.9 Delegates authority to the Director for Adults' Health and Care to finalise the amount of the grants up to the value outlined above subject to agreement by the aforementioned District and Borough Councils.
- 1.10 Notes that the County Council will continue its positive relationship with District, Borough and City Councils to identify additional sources of funding to help enhance the county wide offer in line with their statutory duties in this space.
- 1.11 Notes that the County Council will continue to work with all relevant organisations and service areas including Public Health, Adults' Health and Care service areas, and District and Borough Council's to ensure that wider service areas help to minimise the likelihood of people becoming homeless.

2. Reasons for the Decision

- 2.1 Hampshire County Council will have to reduce its spending by at least £80 million by 31 March 2023 to deliver a balanced budget. This is due to reductions in Government funding, increasing demand for services, rising costs and inflation. With less money available and growing demand for council services, especially statutory services, tough decisions continue to need to be made about what the County Council can and cannot do in the future.
- 2.2 The County Council's Adults' Health and Care Department has savings targets of £40.6m by 31 March 2023. Informed by feedback from the Balancing the Budget Consultation, proposals on how these savings could be achieved were developed by the Department. These were presented to the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health in September 2021 and were agreed by the Cabinet in October 2021 and then by the County Council in early November 2021.
- 2.3 This report sets out the proposals to cease three Adults' Health and Care grant schemes which directly fund grants to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations in order to deliver identified savings of £320,000 from April 2023. It also sets out proposals for changes to the

continued delivery of homelessness services which would still mean continued funding of some £2m per annum, despite delivery of identified savings amounting to £360,000 from April 2023 onwards.

- 2.4 The report outlines and gives consideration to the responses received following a 6-week public consultation earlier this year on the proposals.
- 3 The savings proposals being put forward were scrutinised by a HASC Working Group between November and April during which five meetings were held including a meeting during the public consultation and then a final meeting in April at which the outcomes of the consultation were presented and discussed.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1 Not to proceed with the proposed identified savings. This was rejected because the department has savings targets of £40.6m by 31 March 2023, of which £680,000 has been allocated in these areas.

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:

In making this decision I have taken into consideration the letter I have received from The Winchester Beacon outlining the services they provide from their stage one accommodation following a visit I had made to the services in May 2022. I have also taken into account the email received from Anna Miles on behalf of MHA Communities Hampshire.

I have considered the deliberations of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee in acknowledging the mitigations and assurances provided by Officers regarding the two savings areas, and I note that whilst the Committee agreed that reducing grant and social inclusion spend is not without its issues there was an acceptance that pursuing savings in these areas was legitimate. I was pleased to note the Committee's request to receive updates on the Officers' work with voluntary and community sector organisations to secure other forms of grant support.

Approved by:

Date:

16 June 2022

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