

LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of Tony McGinty, Interim Director of Public Health

Report to	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	26 September 2017
Subject:	Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund – Allocation of Remaining Funds

Summary:

This report asks the Health and Wellbeing Board (the Board) to agree recommendations from the Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund Sub Group (the Sub Group) to allocate the remaining uncommitted money in the Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund to the four Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). It is proposed the CCGs use the funds to support the development of neighbourhood working with a particular focus on building resilience in the Voluntary and Community Sector to enable multi-agency cooperation.

Actions Required:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to agree:

1. The recommendation from the Sub Group to allocate all remaining uncommitted money in the Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund to the four Clinical Commissioning Groups;
2. The proposal for the CCGs to use the funds to develop neighbourhood working with a specific focus on building resilience in the Voluntary and Community Sector;
3. Monitoring of the projects will be through existing reporting mechanisms for the development of neighbourhood working.

1. Background

The Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund for Lincolnshire (the Fund) was originally established in 2008 under a Section 258 Agreement between Lincolnshire County Council and NHS Lincolnshire. It was set up to support projects and initiatives which improve health and wellbeing within Lincolnshire. In November 2014, a revised Section 258 Agreement was signed between Lincolnshire County Council and the four Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) which gave responsibility for allocating the remaining funds to the Health and Wellbeing Board (the Board).

In March 2015, the Board agreed to allocate £1,316,234.00 to ten projects. As previously reported to the Board, funding was later withdrawn from two projects and as at the end of August 2017; four projects have concluded with a further two due to complete by December 2017. The remaining two projects are due to finish in 2018/19. Monitoring reports, providing details on each project's progress against the outcomes agreed in the Grant Fund Agreement, are presented to the Board half yearly. The last update report was presented to the Board in June 2017.

The total amount of unallocated money remaining in the Fund (as at 1 April 2017), including accrued interest, is £369,016.00. In July 2017, the HWB Grant Fund Sub Group, made up of Cllr Woolley (LCC representative), Gary James (CCG representative) and Tony McGinty (Interim Director of Public Health) met to consider the merits of undertaking a further round of applications to the Fund. The Sub Group identified the development of neighbourhood working as a current priority area for the local health and care system requiring additional non-recurrent funding. The locally derived nature of neighbourhood working suggests a 'place based approach' should be taken to identify priorities for investment. However, the Sub Group felt the current application process and grant fund arrangements for allocating the Fund, were inappropriate for agreeing investment in local neighbourhood development.

Therefore the HWB Sub Group's recommendation to the Board is for the remaining balance of the Fund to be allocated equally between the four CCGs to support the development of strong neighbourhood working, with a particular focus on building resilience in the infrastructure of the Voluntary and Community Sector to enable high quality multi-agency cooperation. The proposal is to allocate the Fund using the existing funding mechanism established to manage the Better Care Fund (BCF) allocation to CCGs. Based on the current unallocated balance, each CCG would receive approximately £92,254.00 specifically to be used for Community and Voluntary Sector infrastructure development. Arrangements for the ongoing monitoring of the projects will be achieved through the current reporting mechanism for the BCF allocation with information being presented regularly to the Joint Commissioning Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board as required.

Funding for the existing HWB Grant Fund projects will continue and the existing grant fund arrangements will be sustained until all projects are completed. Any project underspends, in line with the grant fund agreements, will be returned to the Fund once the project has been completed and any outstanding money distributed to the CCGs by the same mechanism outlined above.

2. Conclusion

The Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund was established in 2008 as a time limited pot of money to fund pilot projects and initiatives to help improve health and wellbeing in Lincolnshire. Changes brought about by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, specifically the transfer of Public Health to the local authority, has meant that the fund has continued longer than anticipated. Despite allocating the bulk of the funds in 2015, a number of projects failed to start or have completed without using all the funds allocated to them. As a result there remains a balance in the Fund of £369,016.50. The recommendation from the Health and Wellbeing Fund Sub Group is for all remaining unallocated funds to be transferred to the four CCGs to support the development of neighbourhood working.

3. Consultation

Not applicable

4. Appendices

No appendices

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Alison Christie, Programme Manager Health and Wellbeing, who can be contacted on 01522 552322 or alison.christie@lincolnshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank