

Notice of Non-KEY Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	<i>Acceptance of the Weight Management Services Grant Determination 2021/22 No 31/5440</i>
Cabinet Member:	<i>Cllr Jason Frost</i>
SLT Lead:	<i>Jane West</i>
Report Author and contact details:	Jack Davies, Public Health Specialist Jack.Davies@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	<p>Prevention of obesity is a priority for Havering Health and Wellbeing Board. The grant will allow the commissioning of a coached and peer support service for local residents, which will include self-management to improve nutrition and achieve a healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>The borough experienced England's second highest number of deaths due to Covid – partly due to the age profile of the borough – but likely also attributable to underlying health conditions with overweight/obesity as contributory factors.</p>
Financial summary:	£126,604
Date notice given of intended decision:	23 April 2021
Relevant OSC:	Health OSC

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Is it an urgent decision?	<i>The letter from the PHE was received by email on the 26th March which requires a reply of acceptance by 30 calendar days.</i>
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	Yes. This is a non-key Officer Decision

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Places making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Place an X in the [] as appropriate

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

To approve the acceptance of the grant of £126,604 from Public Health England to implement a Tier 2 Weight Management Service in Havering.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

The Officer delegations in Part 3 of the Constitution under which this decision is taken is set out below.

3.10.3 S151 Officer Functions

(m) To accept grants and the terms and conditions thereof for and on behalf of the Council.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

On 22nd March the UK Government announced the Adult Weight Management Services Grant¹ which will distribute funding to Local Authorities to support the commissioning of Behavioural (tier 2) weight management services for adults. This funding comes as part of the Government's commitment to tackling obesity as outlined in the Policy Paper published July 2020.²

Havering has been allocated a grant of £126,604 from Public Health England to commission a behavioural weight management scheme. This funding is well timed for Havering and England given the COVID-19 pandemic. Obesity significantly increases the risk of severe health outcomes from COVID-19³. Meanwhile Havering has the some of the highest levels of adults overweight and obese in London and is above the national average⁴. The prevention of obesity is a key priority of the Havering Health and wellbeing board and of this Government⁵.

Obesity is a highly complex issue; the result of multiple interacting factors including environment, social culture, behaviour, psychology and biology. Just as there is no single cause of obesity, there is no single action that can bring about the scale of change required to reverse the obesity trend. This is something National Government is acknowledging and acting upon to change, including for example the introduction of the Soft Drink Industry Levy

¹ UK Government, 2021. New specialised support to help those living with obesity to lose weight. Info [here](#).

² UK Government, 2020. Tackling obesity: empowering adults and children to live healthier lives. Info [here](#).

³ PHE 2020. Excess Weight and COVID-19 Insight from new evidence. Info [here](#).

⁴ PHE. 2020. Public Health Profiles. Percentage of adults (aged 18+) classified as overweight or obese 18/19. Info [here](#)

⁵ UK Government, 2021. New Office for Health Promotion to drive improvement of nation's health. Info [here](#).

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and an advertising policy. The introduction of a weight management scheme when partnered with system-wide actions will reduce the proportion of adults who are overweight and obese.

Tier 2 Weight Management was decommissioned in 2016 as a result of reduction in the public health grant. As a result, there has been no free Tier 2 Weight Management service in Havering for 5 years. Havering is one of two London boroughs with no Council funded tier 2 weight management service. A Tier 2 weight management programme is a multi-component programme that aims to improve an individual's diet and help them to be more physically active by changing their behaviour⁶. This new scheme comes as we look to build upon the work delivered in the 2016-2019 Obesity strategy. We are currently updating the Obesity Strategy in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic and this funding will be another tool at the Local Authorities direction to tackle local overweight and obesity prevalence.

If the decision is taken to apply for the weight management grant, then a scheme consistent with best evidence will be commissioned e.g. guidance from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). The scheme will report on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to evaluate its impact and help grow the evidence pool nationally. The scheme will look to build upon current interventions including NHS Health Checks commissioned by the Local Authority and serve to fill a significant gap in the local obesity care pathway.

There are currently two options for making use of this funding. The first option is to support and bolster the weight management scheme currently ran by our leisure Centre provider Everyone Active. The second option is to enter a dynamic purchasing system ran by Public Health England. The benefit of working with Everyone Active is the ability to align with locally developed priority areas which builds upon the current service. This allows for more work around the scheme to improve uptake which will go further in tackling health inequalities.

The Local Authority is asked to advise Public Health England of its decision to accept or reject the funding by 25th April 2021. The Authority must then prepare a 'Statement of Grant Usage' for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 to be submitted to PHE on or before 30 June 2022. All funding must be used during the period until 31 March 2022 unless previously cleared by the Department for Health and Social Care.

This statement must be certified by the Authority's chief executive that the amounts show on the statement are eligible expenditure. This statement of usage must be accompanied by a report from the chief executive or chief finance officer that they have received an audit from the authority chief internal auditor that they can provide reasonable assurance of the grant usage. The Statement of Grant Usage will be presented to Cabinet prior to submission to Public Health England.

PHE will be working with the Local Government Association (LGA) and Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) throughout the programme to support local implementation.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The other option is not to accept the grant. No other funding has been allocated to commissioning weight management support which will mean that such a service will not be available to Havering residents.

⁶ NICE, 2014. Weight management: lifestyle services for overweight or obese adults. Info [here](#).

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PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Jack Davies

Designation: Public Health Specialist

Signature: *J Davies*

Date: 23 April 2021

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council needs to determine whether to accept the grant and if so, to notify Public Health England of its decision by 25th April 2021.

On receipt of the grant, expenditure will need to be tracked in order for the Council to prepare its 'Statement of Grant Usage' for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 which is required to be submitted to Public Health England by 30 June 2022. All funding must be used during the period until 31 March 2022 unless previously cleared by the Department for Health and Social Care. The Statement of Grant Usage requires certification by the Council's Chief Executive to show that the funding has been spent on eligible expenditure. Additionally, the statement of usage must be accompanied by a report from the Chief Executive or Chief Finance Officer that they have received an audit from the authority chief internal auditor that they can provide reasonable assurance of the grant usage.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This report seeks authority to accept an offer of £126,604 from PHE to commission or improve a tier 2 weight management service as outlined in the report. The grant funding must be used by 31 March 2022.

The expenditure on the programme will be managed within the grant sum and this will be included in the commissioning process.

This statement must be certified by the Authority's chief executive and must be accompanied by an assurance from the authority chief internal auditor that they can provide reasonable assurance of the grant usage.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

(i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;

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(ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;

(iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

Once this grant has been accepted the impact of it will be monitored regarding the protected characteristics as defined in the Equalities Act 2010.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The proposal will improve the participants' behaviour and lifestyle by understanding and enabling to have healthier diet, increase physical activity and improve self-care.

Health diet, physical activity and peer support with other residents with similar objectives will lead to improved mental wellbeing and reduced social isolation.

When the objectives are achieved, the confidence and resilience will grow as well.

There is a possibility for employment for local residents in the service. The use of green space and sports facilities will increase.

However, the grant will cater around 1000 residents where 90,000 residents might benefit from tier 2 weight management. This meant we need to prioritise those who will benefit most. Aligning with public health commissioned services such as NHS Healthcheck, National Child Measurement Programme and smoking cessation of pregnant women will mitigate this issue. Similarly, prioritising those with learning disability is also advisable.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Adult Weight Management Services Grant (No.31/5440) Letter (attached)

Grant Conditions document (attached)

PHE Discussions Paper (attached)

In summary, the Adult Weight Management Services Grant will distribute £30.5 million among all local authorities in England, where Havering will receive £126,604 to commission adult behavioural weight management service. This grant is initially for one year. The determination, setting out local authority allocations and the conditions in full, is now available on GOV.UK here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-weight-management-services-grant-determination-2021-to-2022>

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The authority must write to PHE within 30 calendar days from the 26th of March, confirming whether they wish to accept or reject the funding.

PHE will be working with the Local Government Association (LGA) and Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) throughout the programme to support implementation at a local level.

The authority must prepare a 'statement of grant usage' for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 to be submitted to PHE on or before 30 June 2022. The statement of grant usage must be certified by the authority's chief executive that, to the best of his or her knowledge, the amounts shown on the Statement are all eligible expenditure and that the grant has been used for the purposes intended.

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Part C – Record of decision

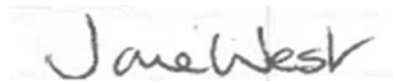
I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Details of decision maker

Signed



Name: Jane West

Head of Service title: Chief Finance Officer

Date: 23 April 2021

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Debra Marlow, Principal Committee Officer in Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____