

Notice of Non-key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Acceptance of North East London Inclusion and Access Funding for Covid and Flu Autumn/Winter Vaccinations 2023/24
Decision Maker:	Barbara Nicholls, Strategic Director of People
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Ford, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care Services
SLT Lead:	Barbara Nicholls, Strategic Director of People
Report Author and contact details:	Sandy Foskett, Senior Commissioner and Project Manager
Policy context:	<p>The Inclusion and Access Funding will support Havering's Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness and uptake of immunisations across all ages. • Reduce the risk of inequalities in local populations with a particular focus on seldom heard communities and inclusion groups with respect to vaccine uptake
Financial summary:	The Inclusion and Access project is funded by NHS North East London

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	(NEL). A total sum of £97,200 has been assigned for the for Covid and Flu Autumn/Winter Vaccinations 2023/24
Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Sub Committee:	Yes
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	The decision will be exempt from call in as it is a Non key Decision

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

People - Things that matter for residents

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - A well run Council that delivers for People and Place.

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Director of Strategic of People, in consultation with the Lead Member for Health, authorises:

- the acceptance of the North East London Funding allocation of £97,200 the allocation of funding for the use of the Covid and Flu Autumn/Winter Vaccinations 2023/24;
- entering into of the terms and conditions of the Section 256* – North East London Inclusion and Access Funding Allocation 2023/24

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

3.3 Powers of Members of the Senior Leadership Team

(c) In consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member to apply for, accept and manage external funding up to a limit of £500,000 per grant in support of any function within their Directorate provided that any financial contributions by the Council are made from within existing budgets.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Background

NHS England has agreed a budget for NHS North East London to deliver the Covid and Flu Vaccination programme for Autumn/ Winter 2023/24. This is categorised as the Inclusion and Access budget (I&A). There are several interventions to support delivery of the programme within this budget, one of these is to fund borough level communication and engagement activities.

While the covid vaccination programme I&A budget is expected to be recurrent, there is no formal notification of this from the commissioners (NHSE) and the parties do not know how much would be allocated next year. Therefore, this funding as non-recurrent and expect delivery by 31st March 2024.

In July 2023 the NEL Borough Directors agreed a funding allocation model which gives all boroughs £31,057 for communications activities and a variable allocation per borough based on the model applied in NEL for the wider Health Inequalities programme.

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The Principles to underpin the funding allocation are similar to the wider Health Inequalities funding but must not duplicate activities aligned to that programme.

The focus of the I&A budget is the covid vaccinations programme and activities that:

- Increase awareness and uptake of immunisations across all ages; in particular covid and flu vaccinations but includes all immunisations where applicable.
- Reduce the risk of inequalities in local populations with a particular focus on seldom heard communities and inclusion groups with respect to vaccine uptake
- Collaborate and co-design delivery with relevant stakeholders including voluntary sector organisations, local trusted leaders and advisers and patient representatives
- Develop and test new approaches to vaccine delivery based on local peoples' needs.
- Support wider system working across NHS and Local Authority commissioners and providers
- Use data to inform evidence- based delivery
- Evaluate interventions and delivery to inform future immunisation programmes
- Share and embed best practice as part of sustainable operations

Payments will be paid to Havering Council for the delivery of services in accordance with the provision of the Section 256 Agreement. The service must be completed by the 31st March 2024.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Option: Do nothing

Increased risk of inequalities in local populations in seldom heard communities with respect to vaccine uptake will likely result in higher rates of infection for under representative groups.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

Integration Care Board NHS North East London
Havering Placed Based Partnership

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

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Name: Sandy Foskett

Designation: Senior Commissioner and Project Manager

Signature: *S Foskett*

Date: 18/10/23

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council has a statutory duty under the National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended by section 12 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012) to take such steps as it considers appropriate for improving the health of the people in its area.

Furthermore, Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power of competence to do anything an individual can do. The recommendations in this report are in keeping with this power and the Council has the power to receive grant funding.

The use of the grant sums will need to be made pursuant to the grant terms and conditions including but not limited to the use of the grant funding and the monitoring requirements. The Council must also indemnify the Integrated Care Board (ICB) against all actions, claims, demands, costs, charges and expenses whatsoever in respect of any breach by the Council of the Grant Funding Agreement.

Furthermore, the ICB may require the Council to repay any unspent funding in the event of:

- a. failure to commence the agreed commissioned service or to attain the agreed service standard and not being able to remedy the situation within a reasonable timescale.
- b. the decommissioning or cessation of the service.
- c. failure to demonstrate financial viability.
- d. any of the grant funding is not used for the purpose specified in the Grant Funding Agreement.

The Grant is allowable under the Council's Contract Procedure Rules 25.1 and 4 which states:

25.1 Where the council receives Grant Funding and is named as the accountable body for the expenditure of monies, and where the terms of the grant permits the council to directly carry out Works, or buy Services or Supplies, any procurement will be conducted in line with CPR.

25.4 Where the funding is for use by a third party, the obligation to account for the funding contained in the grant terms will be included in the agreement with the third party.

Furthermore, the terms of making the grant shall include a clause to competitively tender for Services, Supplies or Works and reflect the Council's strategies, policies and objectives in so much as they apply to, or are compatible with, the funding objectives as set out in the grant terms imposed on the Council and CPR.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This report recommends the acceptance by the Council of funding of £97,200 from the North East London Integrated Care Board to promote Covid and Flu vaccinations for Autumn/Winter 2023/24.

The Council will need to adhere to the terms and conditions contained within the Section 256 agreement for North East London Inclusion and Access Funding. This includes ensuring the funds are used for the purposes intended, services are provided to a satisfactory standard and are delivered by 31st of March 2024.

Payment will be made/funds received upon submission of one invoice for £97,200 and will be credited to A22020 (Media and Campaigns cost centre).

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The funding of £97,200 is split as follows:

- £31,057 allocation for communications; and
- £66,143 allocation for engagement activities

However it is noted that adjustments can be made to the various elements of the programme, including the split between communications and engagement as long as the total allocation isn't exceeded and the spend meets the principles and objectives.

Although there is the possibility of this funding being reoccurring, at this stage it is being treated as one-off as there is no formal commitment for future years.

Note that failure to spend in line with conditions or by the deadline of March 2024 could result in the ICT clawing back funding.

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;
- (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.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

There are no environmental and climate change implications of, and risks relating to, the proposed decision.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

APPENDICES

None

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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

Delete as applicable

Details of decision maker

Signed



Name: Barbara Nicholls

Cabinet Portfolio held:

ELT Member title: Strategic Director of People

Head of Service title

Other manager title:

Date: 29.11.23

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Committee Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____

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