

Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Approval to accept a Local Stop Smoking Services and Support Grant Scheme 2024-2025 and enter into contract with OHID
Decision Maker	Mark Ansell Director of Public Health
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Ford, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care Services
ELT Lead:	Mark Ansell, Director of Public Health
Report Author and contact details:	Suzanne West, Commissioning Manager T: 01708 434670 E: suzanne.west@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	<p>This grant supports Havering Council to meet its People Theme priorities of ensuring that people are helped to live independent, socially connected and healthier lives as set out in the Corporate Plan 2022/23 – 2026/27.</p> <p>Stop Smoking projects are part of Havering’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities and Partnership agenda to reduce smoking-related harms and reduce inequalities caused by smoking across the borough.</p>
Financial summary:	Funding to enhance local stop smoking provision is from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) via Office for Health

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	<p>Improvement & Disparities (OHID) to Havering. This funding is part of the government's national commitment to achieve a smoke free generation by 2030 by supporting local authorities to enhance their stop smoking provision. The grant will be made available under section 31(3) and section 31(4) of the Local Government Act 2003</p> <p>The Council will be allocated a grant total of £307,543. The grant expenditure will be on revenue costs starting in the first quarter of the financial year 2024/25.</p>
Relevant OSC:	People
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	<i>The decision will be exempt from call in as it is a Non key Decision</i>

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

People - Things that matter for residents **X**

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

This decision paper seeks approval:

- i) To accept the grant of £307,543 for 2024 to 2025 financial year from the Office of Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) to invest in enhancing local stop smoking services and support; and
- ii) To enter into the grant terms and conditions letter from the OHID for receipt of grant funding referred to above.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

The Council Constitution Part 3

3.3 Powers of Members of the Senior Leadership Team

Members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) have delegated authority to act as follows within the assigned service service/portfolio of responsibilities, subject to the general provisions and limitations set out in section 3.1 above.

Financial Responsibilities

(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

Local authorities currently fund the provision of local stop-smoking services and support through the public health grant.

The government is investing an additional £70 million per year to support local authority led stop smoking services and over the five financial years of 2024 to 2025 through to 2028 to 2029. Indicative allocations to local authorities were published on 4 October 2023. Havering allocation for first year 2024 to 2025 is £307, 543.

This new funding will be provided through a new section grant on top of the current public health grant allocations. The funding is ring fenced for stop smoking activities. To receive the funding, local authorities must maintain their existing spend on stop smoking services through the public health grant.

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This additional allocation is part of the government's announcement to create a 'smoke free generation' by stopping young people from starting smoking through legislation, and by supporting existing smokers to quit. This is through ensuring a nationwide comprehensive offer to help people stop smoking across England and to increase the number of smokers engaging with effective interventions to quit smoking. Additional funding will be provided to local authorities with the highest smoking rates to level up the communities who need the support the most and to address health disparities.

this will be achieved by:

- stimulating more quit attempts by providing more smokers with advice and swift support
- linking smokers to the most effective interventions to quit
- boosting existing behavioural support schemes designed to encourage smokers to quit (for example the 'swap to stop' scheme)
- building capacity in local areas to respond to increased demand
- strengthening partnerships in local healthcare systems

Payments will be given to local authorities every 6 months. In the first 6 months, local authorities will receive 70% of their allocated financial year's funding as below.

Quarter 1 – April to June 2024	£215,280
Quarter 4 – Jan to March 2025	£92,263

They will be expected to provide grant reporting to the DHSC grants team to receive the second payment. Local authorities received the grant agreement on 27th February 2024. The funding is ring fenced for stop smoking activities. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has determined that the grant will be paid based on the understanding that the funding will be used to:

- Invest in enhancing local authority commissioned stop smoking services and support, in addition to and while maintaining existing spend on these services and support from the public health grant. This should not replace other/existing programmes which support smokers to quit, for example the tobacco dependency programme delivered within the NHS Long Term Plan;
- Build capacity to deliver expanded local stop smoking services and support;
- Build demand for local stop smoking services and support; and
- Deliver increases in the number of people setting a quit date and 4 week quit outcomes, reporting outcomes in the [Stop Smoking Services Collection](#).

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The key success indicators for this funding are:

- number of recorded quit dates set per 100,000 smokers
- percentage of people engaging with services who successfully quit smoking (recorded quit rate)
- number of recorded quits per 100,000 smokers

Local authorities will need to report data throughout the life cycle of the grant.

The proposal is to spend the grant across a number of existing and new services as follows:

Intervention	Proposed spend 2024-25
Expand community pharmacy Stop Smoking Service by commissioning additional 5 pharmacies	£75,000.00
Strengthen existing community pharmacy service by extending consultation period to 8 (£4000), and increasing length of NRT provision to 8 weeks (£7000)	£11,000.00
Establish a Specialist Advisor-Led Community Stop Smoking Service In partnership with Barking & Dagenham	£100,000.00
Fund a Severe Mental Illness Stop Smoking Service	£80,000.00
Training for front line health & social care staff	£2,000.00
CO Test Kits	£5,000.00
Campaigns	£3,000.00
Data Management System	£10,000.00
London Digital Smoking Cessation Pilot	£10,000.00
TOTAL	£296,000.00

Following approval of this decision, Havering Council will proceed with signing the statement of grant usage and accepting the grant allocation.

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OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Doing nothing was an option that was considered but rejected because by not accepting the funding from this grant programme, the Council will miss out on a significant opportunity to secure external funding for the Council's stop smoking services.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

There is no statutory duty to consult on this decision outside of the Council's governance processes

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

Name: Suzanne West

Designation: Commissioning Manager

Signature:



Date: 11th March 2024

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.

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. Appendix (i) to this report sets out the main terms of the Grant Agreement including the circumstances for funding clawback (see section 23-24 Breach of conditions and recovery of grant).

The Grant is allowable under the Council's Contract Procedure Rules 25.1 and 25.4 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 the CPR.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This decision paper seeks approval to accept the S31 local authority grant of £307,543 for 2024 to 2025 financial year from the Office of Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) to invest in enhancing local stop smoking services and support.

The government is investing an additional £70 million per year to support local authority led stop smoking services and over the five financial years of 2024 to 2025 through to 2028 to 2029. Indicative allocations to local authorities were published on 4 October 2023. Havering allocation for first year 2024 to 2025 is £307, 543. This will be paid in 2 instalments.

Quarter 1 – April to June 2024	£215,280
Quarter 4 – Jan to March 2025	£92,263

This new funding will be provided through a new section 31 grant on top of the current public health grant allocations. The funding is ring fenced for stop smoking activities. To receive the funding, local authorities must maintain their existing spend on stop smoking services through the public health grant.

There are no adverse financial implications to the London Borough of Havering in accepting this funding.

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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.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

APPENDICES

Appendix (i) Letter from Office for Health Improvement & Disparities including the following 4 annexes:

Annex A: local stop smoking services and support ring-fenced grant determination including;

Appendix 1 - Local Authority Allocations 2024/25; and
Appendix 2 - Grant conditions

Annex B: Project Summary

Annex C: Payment Arrangements

Annex D: Statement of Grant Usage (SOGU) Assurance Template example

Key Executive Decision

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: Mark Ansell

Head of Service title: Director of Public Health

Date: 02/04/24

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 _____