



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Expansion of the Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot to Reduce Tobacco Harm
Decision Maker:	Mark Ansell - Director of Public Health
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Ford – Lead Member for Health
SLT Lead:	Kathy Freeman - Strategic Director of Resources
Report Author and contact details:	Suzanne West Commissioner Suzanne.west@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	<p>This pilot 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:	<p>Funding for the expansion of the Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot is from the Office for Health 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 has been allocated a grant of £307,543 for 2024/2025 to support local authority led stop smoking services, £75,000.00 of which will be allocated to this project. The grant</p>

Non-key Executive Decision

	expenditure will be on revenue costs starting in the first quarter of the financial year 2024/25.
Relevant OSC:	Health
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>

Non-key Executive Decision

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

For the reasons detailed in this report the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Lead Member for Health, authorises the proposal to expand the Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot to Reduce Tobacco Harm to an additional 5 pharmacies at a cost of £75,000 using the funding from the Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) to Havering.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Part 3 [Responsibility for Functions] of Havering's Constitution (old delegations)

Part 3.4 Powers of Second Tier Managers
General powers

(a) To take any steps necessary for proper management and administration for their allocated portfolios.

Financial responsibilities

(a) To incur expenditure within the revenue and capital budgets for the relevant service as approved by the Council, subject to any variation permitted by the Council's contract and financial procedure rules

Contract powers

(a) To approve commencement of a tendering process for, and to award all contracts below a total contract value of £500,000 but above the EU Threshold for Supplies and Services

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Background

Smoking is the leading cause of avoidable ill health such as cancer, heart and lung diseases and also results in premature deaths. In Havering, the number of smokers has recently shown an increase reversing previous trend. Office of Health Improvement and Disparities, OHID data¹ show that in 2022 15.9% of Havering residents smoked, compared to 11.7% in London and 12.7%, England. Also more males, 22.5% smoked compared to females, 8.5%. Available data point to clear inequality of impact caused by smoking with rates higher amongst disadvantaged groups, routine and manual workers and also among those with serious mental illness (SMI). The high rates of smoking within these groups further compound the negative impacts on their health, social and financial wellbeing.

¹ [Smoking Profile - Data - OHID \(phe.org.uk\)](https://phe.org.uk)

Non-key Executive Decision

Reducing smoking within these groups and in the wider population will therefore improve overall health and wellbeing. In addition, given the prevailing high cost of living, quitting smoking will provide additional benefit in terms of savings made to incomes.

Reducing tobacco harm remains a key prevention priority outlined in the Havering Health and Wellbeing strategy and actions to reduce smoking are focused on

- supporting smokers, in particular vulnerable groups, men as well as pregnant women, to quit
- reducing inequality in access to stop smoking service provision and
- providing equal support to reduce smoking for those with mental health conditions (achieve parity of esteem with physical ill health)

Local authorities receive funding to provide local stop-smoking services and support through the public health grant. In November 2022 funding from this grant was requested and approved (link to paper below) to pilot a community pharmacy stop smoking service at an estimated cost of £85,000 with £42,500 contribution from North East London Integrated Care Board (ICB) Inequality Funding allocation.

The decision paper set out that:

- the Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot service will be located in the most deprived parts of the borough namely Romford, Harold Hill, Collier Row and Rainham in order to give improved access to support to those in more disadvantaged areas in giving up smoking but can also be accessed by other residents in the borough.
- the service will complement the NHS plan to reduce smoking through commissioning of additional local pharmacies and reducing inequality by improving access to stop smoking support to the most disadvantaged.
- the service was procured through a restricted procurement procedure by inviting expression of interest from local pharmacies in the target areas and selection of pharmacies using a set of criteria. This process has been conducted with seven pharmacies recruited to provide the service.
- the cost and payment for the service which have been approved
- the data collection and management arrangement using PharmOutcome IT system
- the monitoring and evaluation arrangement

A restricted procurement exercise was undertaken to recruit community pharmacies to provide the stop smoking service which involved:

- Inviting expression of interest (EOI) from pharmacies in designated areas
- Return of Expression of Interest (EOI) Form
- Selection of pharmacies meeting the criteria by panel
- Notification of decision to pharmacies
- Contract Issuance
- Training, setting up pharmacies and service promotion
- Service commencement

Overall 8 pharmacies expressed interest in providing the service out of which seven successfully met the criteria and were selected. The successful pharmacies and their location are as shown below:

1. ASVA Care, Romford
2. Burdess Pharmacy, Romford
3. MIM, Romford

Non-key Executive Decision

4. Crescent, Harold Hill
5. Day Lewis, Harold Hill
6. Orchard Village, Rainham
7. Williams, Rainham

The award of contract to these pharmacies was signed off on 20th December 2022 (link to paper below). The Pharmacies began delivering the service in January 2023.

Proposal

The government is investing an additional £70 million per year to support local authority led stop smoking services and over the financial years of 2024 to 2025 through to 2028 to 2029. Havering allocation for year 2024 to 2025 is £30,543.

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

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.

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](#).

The key success indicators for this funding are:

- number of people setting quit dates
- percentage of people engaging with services who successfully quit smoking (recorded quit rate)

Non-key Executive Decision

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

The proposal is to use £75,000 of the grant allocated to expand the Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot into an additional 5 pharmacies via a restricted procurement exercise (same process as before).

Implementing the expansion to the pharmacy stop smoking service is expected to contribute to the reduction in smoking prevalence, morbidity and mortality associated with smoking, as well as reduce the unequal impact of harm caused by smoking.

It is therefore recommended that the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Lead member for Health, approves the expansion of the pilot.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

OHID has given specific requirements for the expenditure of grant allocation.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

None

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

Name: Suzanne West

Designation: Commissioner

Signature:



Date: 27th March 2024

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council has the power to procure a contract for these services through Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, which allows the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions, or through its general power of competence under Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that individuals generally may do, subject to statutory limitations.

The proposed procurement value of £75,000 is below the applicable public procurement threshold for the light touch regime stipulated in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("PCR") of £663 540. Therefore, this procurement is not subject to the full PCR regime. However, the procurement process has to follow the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPR).

Officers are cognisant of the obligations the Council has under its grant terms and would ensure compliance.

For the reasons set out above, the Council may make the necessary award of contracts.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This decision paper is seeking approval to expand the Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot to Reduce Tobacco Harm to an additional 5 pharmacies at a cost of £75,000.

Funding for the expansion of the Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot is from the Office for Health 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 has been made available under section 31(3) and section 31(4) of the Local Government Act 2003

Havering allocation for 2024/25 is £307,543 and this is to support local authority led stop smoking services and the full cost of this project will be met from the grant.

The grant agreement for Havering was received on 27th February 2024 and a decision paper has been approved to accept this grant funding.

The full proposal for the use of the grant funding is as per below:

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

Non-key Executive Decision

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

There are no adverse financial implications as a result of this decision.

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

The proposal to expand the pilot is likely to have a positive impact on the environment through reduction in the number of cigarettes people smoke thereby improving air quality.

Non-key Executive Decision

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Non Key Decision to Pilot Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Service:

[Decision - Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Pilot Service to Reduce Tobacco Harm | The London Borough Of Havering](#)

Non Key Decision to Award Community Pharmacy Stop Smoking Service:

[FORM A \(havering.gov.uk\)](#)

APPENDIX

None

Non-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

Proposal NOT agreed because

Delete as applicable

Details of decision maker



Signed

Name: Mark Ansell

Director of Public Health

Date: 20/5/24

Lodging this notice

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

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____