

Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Permission to vary the current adult drugs and alcohol treatment and recovery service contract to include the provision of a 6 month vaping stop smoking initiative.
Decision Maker:	Mark Ansell, Director of Public Health
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Ford, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care Services
SLT Lead:	Mark Ansell, Director of Public Health
Report Author and contact details:	Daren Mulley, Commissioner E: daren.mulley@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	<p>This initiative will support 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>The vaping stop smoking initiative is part of the local Stop Smoking project within 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 for this vaping initiative will come from the government allocation for local stop smoking provision, and is from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) via Office for

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	<p>Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) to Havering. The vapes provided will be provided by the national Swap to Stop Scheme also funded by OHID.</p> <p>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 total of £307,543 for smoking cessation activities in the financial year 2024-25. The Council has also been awarded 1500 vapes to be used as additional quit support either within existing stop smoking services or as standalone initiatives.</p> <p>Change, Grow, Live (CGL) will offer vapes as a standalone initiative within their current treatment service offer.</p> <p>The variation of the contract with Change, Grow, Live will be for the sum of £31,007.76. It will take place from 1st Nov 2024 – 30th April 2025.</p>
Relevant OSC:	People
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	Yes, it is a Non key Decision by Officer

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

X People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

This decision paper seeks approval to vary the existing Adult Treatment & Recovery Service contract with Change, Grow, Live (CGL) to include provision of a 6 month vaping service initiative from 1st November 2024 to 30th April 2025 at the cost of £31,007.76.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

3.3 Powers of Members of the Senior Leadership Team (under the Havering Constitution pre 1 April 2024)

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. The Havering allocation for first year 2024 to 2025 is £307,543.

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.

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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. 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

In order to boost existing behaviour support schemes to encourage smokers to quit, particularly those from one of the groups with highest smoking prevalence, those receiving treatment for drug and alcohol addiction (smoking prevalence 60% for alcohol and non-opiates misuse, 69.7% all opiate misuse), a specialist vape service (using the government Swap to Stop scheme) will be delivered by the current treatment provider Change, Grow Live. The vape provision will be available to all individuals engaged with the service, as well as those entering treatment within the period of the pilot.

The intervention model will include:

- Very Brief Advice (VBA+) to service users identified as smokers,
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) level testing
- Provision of a vape starter kit and follow on liquids via direct delivery.
- Referrals for onward support made to the Specialist Advisor Stop Smoking Service currently delivered by Barking and Dagenham Council's Healthy Lifestyle team. This service will contact the client and offer a full, tailored, 12 week programme of support to further support them in making a successful quit.
- Follow up consultation at 4 weeks for confirmation of smoking status
- Monitoring of uptake and referrals

Following approval of this decision, Havering Council will proceed with a six month variation (1st November 2024 to 30th April 2025) to the existing CGL contract for the provision of the adult drugs and alcohol treatment and recovery service.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

This is the only provider in the borough working with people with substance misuse and provides a treatment programme. This is the only option to reach this group within the timeframe that we have.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

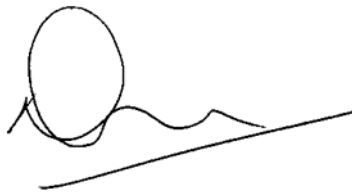
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Change, Grow, Live (the Provider of adult drug and alcohol services in Havering)

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

Name: Daren Mulley

Designation: Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Signature:

Date: 06/11/2024

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council has an existing contract with Change, Grow, Live for adult treatment and recovery services and it is making a decision to vary the contract. The Council has the power to vary the 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. Additionally, the Council has the power to vary the contract through its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that individuals generally may do. There are limitations on the general power of competence, but the limitations do not apply to this decision. Therefore, the Council can vary the contract.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This decision paper seeks approval to vary the existing Adult Treatment & Recovery Service contract with Change, Grow, Live (CGL) to include provision of a 6 month advice and vaping service initiative from 1st November 2024 to 30th April 2025 at the cost of £31,007.76. The spend will be funded from the Council's smoking cessation grant for which the council has been allocated £307,543 in 2024-25. The contract spend of £31,007.76 can be accommodated within the overall planned expenditure associated with this grant and meetings the grant conditions.

CGL are the only substance misuse treatment provider working within the borough at this time and a variation of our existing contract with them represents the most expeditious way of reaching the required group within the timeframes required (ie by the end of this financial year). This is the first time the Council will have employed CGL to undertake smoking cessation activities but CGL has experience of delivering stop smoking initiatives in other boroughs. Secondly, substance misuse clients seen by CGL are among the groups with high smoking prevalence in the borough and therefore provision of support to stop smoking will benefit their health. Contract management will monitor the effectiveness of the service against key metrics such as the number of people offered kits and the number abstaining from smoking at 28 days.

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:

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- (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, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

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.

The action undertaken will include monitoring how the service meets the needs of all eligible users, including those from ethnic minority communities and the disabled. The Council will also ensure that potential providers have undertaken equality training and adhere to the Council's Fair to All Policy or their own equivalent.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Details of decision maker

Signed 

Name: Mark Ansell

Head of Service title: Director of Public Health

Date: 14/11/24

Lodging this notice

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

<p>For use by Committee Administration</p> <p>This notice was lodged with me on _____</p> <p>Signed _____</p>
