

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 23rd March 2022 Report for: Information

Report of: Helen Gollins, Acting Director of Public Health

Report Title: Drugs and Alcohol Funding
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Summary.

Trafford, along with all other Local Authorities, will be receiving additional funds over at least the next three years to support the implementation of the treatment and recovery elements of the Government's 10 Year Drugs Strategy published in December 2021.

Recommendation.

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the content of the report.
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Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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1. Background

In response to Dame Carol Black's review of drugs, which makes it clear that the drug treatment and recovery system in England is not able to operate to the standard needed to address current challenges, the Government published its 10 Year Drugs Strategy 'From Harm to Hope' in December of last year. It aims to reduce crime and both the supply and demand for drugs by enhancing drug and alcohol treatment.

2. The new funding

Additional funds will be available to all local authorities in England for the next three years. Fifty areas will receive extra money in the first year on top of the universal government funding, a further 50 areas will receive their extra money in 23/24 and the remainder (including Trafford) will receive the extra in 24/25.

In 21/22 we received a total of £201,000 universal grant funding in Trafford and we have now been given indicative allocations for the next three years. These amounts are unconfirmed and embargoed at this time, but we expect our allocation for years 1 and 2 will be at least as much as we received in 21/22. Then in 24/25 we will receive our uplift.

It is hoped that the additional funding will continue beyond 24/25, but due to the 3 year spending review cycle this remains uncertain.

3. How the money is to be spent

The funding will be dependent on maintaining existing (2020/21) investment in drug and alcohol treatment.

There is a national target to increase the number of treatment places by 54,500 - a 20% increase. In Trafford we need to agree with our provider/s a three-year trajectory that contributes towards this national ambition. We also need to set out how the grant funding will reduce drug and alcohol deaths locally, both in and out of treatment.

There are a number of metrics we are required to develop locally, and a menu of interventions which we need to base our proposals on.

There is an Inpatient Detoxification Grant which will be awarded to regional or sub-regional consortia.

The drug strategy also commits to expanding the provision of Individual Placement and Support employment support (IPS) across England. We don't currently have this service in Trafford so we will work with OHID to implement it locally.

4. Immediate considerations

We expect to be asked to submit outline plans for how we intend to spend the funding in April 2022.

To meet government expectations around local accountability, we need to consider what commissioning capacity we will require now and in the future.

We are required to have a local drugs and alcohol partnership, with a wide range of stakeholders including the police and crime commissioner, the local health and social care system, probation and NHS health and justice colleagues. It is anticipated this partnership may fit best with our existing governance system as a subgroup of the Safer Trafford Partnership.

5. Recommendations

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the content of the report.