

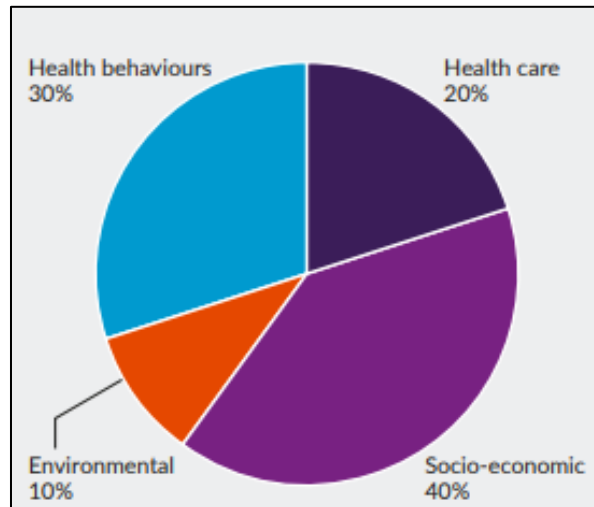


Council name	<b>COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>
Name and date of Committee	<b>Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing Decision Making Meeting – 28 March 2022</b>
Report Number	<b>AGENDA ITEM I</b>
Subject	<b>Strengthening Local Communities Grant Funding</b>
Wards affected	People living in all wards have the potential to be impacted in a positive way.
Accountable member	Cllr Jenny Forde, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing Email: <a href="mailto:jenny.forde@cotswold.gov.uk">jenny.forde@cotswold.gov.uk</a>
Accountable officer	Andy Barge, Group Manager – Strategic Support Email: <a href="mailto:andy.barge@publicagroup.uk">andy.barge@publicagroup.uk</a>
Summary/Purpose	This report identifies the opportunity to apply for NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group grant funding for the continued development and delivery of collaborative work for improving the health and wellbeing of our residents.
Annexes	None
Recommendation(s)	<i>It is recommended that:</i>  a) Cotswold District Council submit an application to NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group for grant funding of £149,995 to be used for the continued development and delivery of collaborative work for improving the health and wellbeing of our residents.
Corporate priorities	Helping residents and communities access the support they need for good health and wellbeing
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	1. Leader 2. Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance 3. Chief Executive Officer



## I. BACKGROUND

- I.1 Our health is influenced by our physiological characteristics, health behaviours and lifestyles, our social and community networks and our physical, social and economic contexts:



- I.2 As illustrated above, whilst the provision of health care services plays an important role in health outcomes, it is clear that in order to truly influence health on a population level we need to focus action on the other contributory factors, which have traditionally been seen as outside the boundaries of the health and care system; namely the wider determinants and health behaviours.
- I.3 Given the functions and enabling roles which district councils have across the determinants of health, they can play an important role in improving the health and wellbeing of their citizens and communities; especially when collaborating with others. For health inequalities to be addressed effectively, interventions must be built on developing community based programmes, which enable empowerment, control, self-determination and the freedom to lead lives that people have reason to value.
- I.4 The NHS can no longer operate without greater awareness of how people's circumstances affect their ability to be full partners in their care. Services need to understand and address this wider context. Local NHS providers and commissioners need to find opportunities to participate in initiatives that shape the wider community within which they operate and ensure they are advocates for health creation. A joined-up approach that treats the 'place' and not just individual problems or issues is necessary.
- I.5 As a response to the recognition that a local place based focus provides the opportunity to understand priorities in local areas and build sustainable initiatives with local communities the NHS in Gloucestershire has developed Integrated Locality Partnerships (ILPs). These bring together a collaboration of partners from across local health and care and wider systems to create new ways of engaging with local communities and a new approach to delivering and developing services.



- 1.6 The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has meant there has never been a greater need or more opportune moment to ramp up collaboration and action at a local 'place' level to tackle the widening inequalities gaps we see as a result of the pandemic.

## **2. STRENGTHENING LOCAL COMMUNITIES GRANT FUNDING**

- 2.1 NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group has grant funding available to support the district councils to provide locally led, community focussed work, alongside their local ILP, with a central aim of positively influencing the wider determinants of health and to tackle the growing health inequalities gap.
- 2.2 This work will complement existing county-wide, community-based initiatives and deliver action to ensure our most intensive focus is in the areas where need is greatest, aiming to improve the health of the whole population while simultaneously improving the health of the most disadvantaged fastest, thus contributing to a reduction in health inequalities.
- 2.3 In submitting an application for Strengthening Local Communities grant funding, Cotswold District Council and its partners in the ILP will be able to deliver initiatives based around local priorities that shape the wider community within which they operate and ensure they are advocates for health creation. Through the work we will be able to engage with local communities, with the grant funding helping them create new approaches to delivering and developing services. To be truly effective, work within will need to be built on ownership by local leaders and engage with the existing community and VCSE infrastructure.
- 2.4 The Strengthening Local Communities project objectives would be summarised as:
- Identify local priorities in conjunction with the ILP, VCSE organisations and communities
  - Co-create initiatives based on understanding of priorities and need
  - Employ various community and asset-based approaches to deliver initiatives
  - Develop projects that utilise the skills, knowledge and organisations found in the local area to address identified priorities
  - Measure the impact of initiatives, develop appropriate outcomes for each initiative and provide relevant assurance that these outcomes are being met
  - Capture the learning of strengths and barriers of the process and design, implement and collaborate with commissioners to support the overarching review of impact



- 2.5 At this point in time the detail of the work that will be delivered is yet to be decided – we are deliberately avoiding locking ourselves into specifics at this time. We will work closely with our local ILP, colleagues from the Clinical Commissioning Group and with the established Strengthening Local Communities partnership board to identify priorities and develop community focussed projects, utilising local knowledge, skills and organisations. As our focus refines through the engagement and development phase we will determine key outcomes against which to measure our progress.
- 2.6 The Cotswold ILP has identified health inequalities, people living with dementia, social isolation and loneliness, healthy lifestyles and a focus on patients with diabetes as priorities and the projects we look to develop are likely to support those priorities and build on the work that's already happening.
- 2.7 We know the strength of our communities, which has been exemplified by the recent response to the Covid-19 pandemic, with many great examples of beneficial collaboration resulting in a strengthening of our partnership and confirmation of our shared values. Communities where the VCSE/statutory link was strongest were the quickest to mobilise a local response and have been the most organised. This grant will help us to strengthen partnerships for the future.

### **3. COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

- 3.1 At its 14 July 2021 meeting Council adopted a refresh of the Constitution, with an updated Responsibility for Functions section (Part C). Within the table of Executive functions the Leader, or responsible Cabinet Member, may make a bid for funding with resource implications exceeding £100,000 and not exceeding £150,000.

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 If our application is successful, the grant funding and its proposed use is compatible with the Council's aim of helping residents and communities to access the support they need for good health and wellbeing.
- 4.2 There is no match funding requirement.

### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from the report.

### **6. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 6.1 There are no risks arising in submitting an application for this grant funding.



## **7. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

- 7.1 The project will be designed to be open and inclusive to all geographical communities and communities of interest. Support will be given to those most in need in line with the ILP priorities.

## **8. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 None identified specific to this report.

## **9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 9.1 The Council could choose not to submit an application for Strengthening Local Communities grant funding.

## **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 10.1 None

(END)