

<b>DECISION TITLE:</b>
<b>Allocation of Additional Workforce Grant Funding (Round 2) in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic</b>
<b>Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Public Health</b>
<b>ENTER MONTH IN WHICH DECISION IS BEING TAKEN</b>
<b>January 2022</b>
<b>Deadline date: February 2022</b>

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Cllr Walsh, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Public Health Charlotte Black: Corporate Director, People and Communities
Is this a Key Decision?	YES If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan: YES Unique Key decision Reference from Forward Plan: KEY/01FEB22 /01
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO .
Is this a project and if so has it been registered on Verto?	NO Verto number: N/A

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>
The Cabinet Member is recommended to:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve the allocation of the Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund (Round 2) issued by central government, equating to £992,077, to cover the following areas:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs associated with retention and recruitment of capacity to support frontline social care workforce provision within Peterborough City Council</li> <li>• To passport funding to all CQC registered independent sector providers operating within the communities on a per/staffing basis for use in line with grant conditions.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

**1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Public Health to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (a)

## 2. **TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	
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## 3. **BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 On the 16th December 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) issued guidance on additional funding for Workforce Recruitment and Retention Funding for ASC (Round 2). This is in addition to the £162.5m workforce and retention funding issued on the 3rd November 2021.
- 3.2 Peterborough has a confirmed allocation of £992,077. The funding is being issued on a one-off basis and will be paid in 2 instalments with 70% being issued in January 2022 and 30% in February 2022.
- 3.3 The funding will be paid through a Section 31 ring fenced grant exclusively for actions which enable the Council to deliver measures to supplement and strengthen adult social care staff capacity to ensure that safe and continuous care is achieved to deliver the following outcomes:
- Support timely and safe discharge from hospital to where ongoing care and support is needed
  - Support providers to maintain the provision of safe care and bolstering capacity within providers to deliver more hours of care
  - Support providers to prevent admission to hospital
  - Enable timely new care provision in the community
  - Support and boost retention of staff within social care
- 3.4 The funding comes with a number of conditions which must be adhered to. This includes:
- The grant must only be used to address local workforce capacity issues in adult social care between 10/12/21 and 31/3/22.
  - The grant must not be used for activities which do not support the primary purpose of the Workforce Capacity Fund which is to deliver additional staffing capacity.

This means the grant cannot be used on non-staffing capacity expenditure – for example, isolation pay.

- Local authorities can choose to pass some or all of their funding to care providers within the local authority's geographical area to deliver measures that increase staffing capacity within the organisation.
- Where grant funding is passported to independent sector providers, this can only be passported to Care Quality Commission (CQC) registered organisations.

3.5 The recommended allocation of the grant detailed below has been developed following engagement from stakeholders across internal teams, local providers, and care associations. It has accounted for the following:

- Additional capacity generated and funded internally within the local authority to support management of demand and pressures associated with the pandemic.
- The ongoing pressures being managed by independent sector providers across the market from care homes to domiciliary care. A significant proportion of this fund will therefore be transferred to the market on a per service user/bed basis.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Reablement – regrading of staff to support retention (bring forward to 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022)	£12,000
Investment in additional review team capacity to address backlog of reviews	£130,121
Recruitment Campaign	£12,000
Passport to Market – All CQC Registered Care Home and Community Providers on a per staff member basis to use in line with grant conditions	£839,956
<b>Total</b>	<b>£992,077</b>

3.6 This funding is in addition to the Round 1 Workforce Grant Funding announced in November 2021 of £537,375 for Peterborough City Council, 100% of which is being distributed to independent sector providers.

3.7 In the event of an underspend of either grant, the Council will review the proportion of underspend in each allocation and reapportion across all grant recipients.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

4.1 This recommendation has been made following consultation with local providers, care associations, other Councils from across the region and public health.

#### **5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

5.1 The outcome of this, will be ensure that government funding is distributed in line with the national conditions, ensuring it is targeted at the areas of most need, to deliver increased and sustainable social care workforce capacity over the coming months.

#### **6. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 This recommendation adheres to government guidance. It will also support local providers delivering support on behalf of the Council to continue to do so in the face of significant recruitment and retention pressures and secure continuity of care for service users.

#### **7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

7.1 Do Nothing: This would not comply with request given by the Department of Health and Social Care to distribute grant funding to support with recruitment and retention challenges.

Lack of funding would also impact on the ability of the Council to mitigate current workforce pressures being managed by providers delivering support to people across Peterborough

## **8. IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

- 8.1 There are no financial implications for the Council as the grant funding has been issued by central government on a one-off basis.

### **Legal Implications**

- 8.2 The Council has the legal power to make grant awards under the general power of competence contained in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.

The Council shall consider Subsidy Control in the award of grant funding to all recipients.

Grant agreements shall be issued to all recipients.

## **9. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED**

- 9.1 There are none.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

- 10.1 There are none.

## **11. APPENDICES**

- 11.1 There are none.