

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

**Cabinet Member for
Adult Social Care and Public Health**

DECISION NO:

23/00098

For publication: Yes

Key decision: YES

Title of Decision: URGENT AND EMERGENCY CARE SUPPORT FUND

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, I propose to:

- a) **ACCEPT** the Urgent and Emergency Care Funding under the terms set out by the Department of Health and Social Care and
- b) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director Adult Social Care and Health to develop plans to deploy the grant funding and take relevant actions, including but not limited to entering into and finalising the terms of relevant contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary to implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision: In July 2023 the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) announced £600m of funding over two years to enable local authorities to go further in improving adult social care capacity. In that announcement, the DHSC said that it intended to make £30m of this funding available this year to local authorities in areas with the greatest health and care challenges. The DHSC subsequently increased the available funding by £10m to provide for a £40m fund. The £40 million will enable selected local authorities to support urgent and emergency care performance and resilience for residents over the winter period. The intention is to provide targeted funding for local authorities in areas with the greatest urgent and emergency care challenges.

Local authorities were invited to develop proposals, in which they were expected to agree with the relevant Integrated Care Board (ICB) and provide evidence of ICB views on the proposals in their application form.

Assessment criteria for proposals:

- Impact on urgent and emergency care resilience and performance over the winter period, whether by helping prevent avoidable admissions or by reducing discharge delays
- Are deliverable over the winter 2023/24 period
- Are additional to existing LA expenditure and capacity plans and linked to NHS winter surge plans and Better Care Fund demand and capacity plans, for example by addressing gaps identified in those plans. Section 151 officers will be required to assure that funding has been used to purchase additional services and capacity in line with the MoU

Adult social care, in agreement with the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board, has submitted a proposal to support the resilience of urgent and emergency care services across Kent. The funding will be targeted in areas of Kent with the most challenged performance (East Kent) of urgent and emergency care services and to address capacity gaps across the county.

Financial Implications: The indicative allocation for Kent County Council (KCC) is £2,892,188. This allocation has been calculated based on a share of the indicative £40 million funding that is

proportional to KCC's adult social care relative needs formula share.

Legal Implications: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be put in place for each local authority, setting out how funding will be used and what information the local authority will be expected to provide to demonstrate impact and value for money. Local authorities will be asked to report on any discharge capacity they buy with this funding within their monthly Discharge Fund capacity returns. Local authorities will also be expected to provide an interim report (in January 2024) to report on progress against planned spend and a final report in May 2024.

Equalities implications: A full equality impact assessment has been undertaken as is included within the Adult Social Care Pressures Plan 2023/2024.

Data Protection implications: There are no anticipated data implications associated with this decision.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation: The proposed decision will be discussed at the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 16 November 2023 and the outcome included in the paperwork which the Cabinet Member will be asked to sign.

Any alternatives considered and rejected: The alternative was to not submit a proposal, however this would have a significant negative impact on the resilience of urgent and emergency care services in Kent over the winter period.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

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signed

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date