

North West Surrey Alliance Funding Report (Community Services, Darren Williams – Corporate Head of Community Services)

Synopsis of report: to

- summarise the role of the NW Surrey Alliance;
- provide a summary of the way in which the Council engages as a member of the Alliance;
- provide a summary of work undertaken to secure an allocation of funding from the NW Surrey Alliance, for projects in 2022-2023; and
- seek approval for delegated authority to the Chief Executive as set out in the recommendation below, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee

Recommendation that:

Authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to approve the recruitment of staff and procurement of matters related to these projects, on the basis there is no cost to the Council, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee

1. Context of report

- 1.1 The North West (NW) Surrey Alliance (the Alliance) is a partnership of organisations working across health, local government, the voluntary sector, and private sector. The Alliance gives a place-based approach in North West Surrey, within the overall structures of the Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System.
- 1.2 Partners in the Alliance include NHS Surrey Heartlands Clinical Commissioning Group, Ashford & St Peters Hospital, CSH Surrey (community healthcare providers), Primary Care, Surrey & Borders NHS Trust, Surrey County Council and Woking and Sam Beare Hospice.
- 1.3 Importantly, given that the NW Surrey health boundaries cover Runnymede, Woking, Spelthorne, West Elmbridge, and a small part of Surrey Heath (Chobham area), borough councils are included as equal, and much valued partners within the Alliance.
- 1.4 The role of the Alliance is to bring together partners to use their collective resources, expertise, and staff assets to address the wider determinants of health for the ultimate benefit of local people.
- 1.5 The Council has been involved in the Alliance since its initial formation as an Integrated Care Partnership in 2019, with the Corporate Head of Community Services representing the four NW Surrey boroughs within this initial, informal, structure, working towards the Alliance now in place.

2. Report

- 2.1 One of the Alliance's key priorities is to shift a higher degree of focus and invention from treating illness to preventing ill health and a loss of independence in the first place. This is felt to be best achieved through creating healthier and more prosperous environments and proactively

supporting the most vulnerable in society across the NW Surrey area, working closely at a borough level.

- 2.2 The Alliance is committed to investing in the delivery of key services to promote health and wellbeing and to provide targeted, specialist support.
- 2.3 There are six agreed themes of service development, on which it is intended to work closely with borough councils. These are:
- Discharge support and support for people after a period of ill health
 - Prevention and wellbeing
 - Supporting the most vulnerable in our communities
 - Utilising new technology
 - Service accessibility
 - Comprehensive evaluation
- 2.4 In January 2022 a tranche of non-recurrent funding was allocated for projects within the Alliance. The four borough councils were asked to consider projects and pilots to which funding could be awarded, to be delivered in full, or commence in 2022/2023.
- 2.5 The initial funding envelope identified was circa £1m. However, the Place Leader & Alliance Chief Officer was keen to increase this to £2m if there were appropriate and viable pilot projects forthcoming.
- 2.6 As a result, boroughs considered their local services, projects, and initiatives, as well as those that could either be delivered collectively, or be undertaken as pilots, with a view to being rolled out formally across the wider NW Surrey area.
- 2.7 All the project ideas, both individual borough focussed and NW Surrey wide, were discussed collectively by Borough representatives with the Place Leader & Alliance Chief Officer and financial allocations were agreed. Appendix 'A' details the projects that were approved in full.
- 2.8 There are several projects that are specific to Runnymede. These are listed in rows 5, 15, 17 and 22 of Appendix 'A'. These four items all support either the development of business as usual and/or the delivery of the forthcoming Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 2.9 Of note, a sum of £132k has been awarded to the Council (row 5), to be used to help deliver the first year of the action plan attached to the Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This funding is a significant boost to mobilise some of the priorities identified. Officers together with the Alliance and other local partners will determine to which parts of the action plan the money will be allocated.
- 2.10 Rows 1, 2, 4, 9, 10,11,16 and 23 of Appendix 'A', are projects that will be delivered in one of the following ways:
1. as a pilot within one borough area as a pilot/testbed for potential further roll out across North West Surrey
 2. Delivered/coordinated on behalf of the four NW Surrey boroughs by a lead borough
 3. Delivered consistently across NW Surrey with equal/appropriate distribution of monies to each borough

- 2.11 Pilot projects being led by a single borough include the introduction of Hoarding Officers within borough teams to create a multi-agency approach to supporting residents, having introduced a new Surrey protocol (row 9) and the trial of new technology within extra care Sheltered Housing facilities (row 11), both led by Woking Borough Council.
- 2.12 Projects that will be led by a single borough to support service delivery across NW Surrey include Woking Borough Council recruiting an additional two, Borough Discharge Support Officers for an initial period of two years, to work as part of the hospital discharge team, connecting patients with borough services (row 1).
- 2.13 Funding for a Homesafe Plus Co-ordinator as a two-year post, to be employed by the Council is included (row 2) to continue the growth and development of the hospital discharge services that is reported to committee via business unit Key Performance Indicators, as well as to develop better quality monitoring and outcome data of the value of the service.
- 2.14 Row 10 sees circa £80k allocated to a project looking at the value of Borough Council services to the health economy in NW Surrey. Officers hope this will generate evidence to allow for further discussions with Alliance partners on the potential shift of NHS funding to prevention services delivered by borough councils. This project is likely to be led by this Council.
- 2.15 Finally, there are two key posts of funding that allow for new projects/services to be developed across NW Surrey as pilots. Firstly, row 4 allocates a sum of £300k to the development of wrap around support for residents at home and to re-engage with their local community, post hospital discharge, elective surgery etc. This pilot will form an extension of the Homesafe Plus service and will be developed jointly by the four boroughs and wider Alliance partners.
- 2.16 Row 23 shows an allocation of £185k, to the provision of wrap around support for highly vulnerable people across NW Surrey. Potentially, this pilot could also provide support to displaced families/refugees residing in the area. Again, it is intended to develop this project collectively.
- 2.17 This report highlights the volume of work to come in partnership with the wider Alliance and demonstrates the value of borough councils being part of the integrated working approach (not all Alliances in other areas of Surrey engage with borough councils to the same extent). The commitment of funding also demonstrates the fact that borough councils in NW Surrey are seen as capable to deliver and are being actively encouraged and supported to do so.
- 2.18 Given that some of these projects will develop quickly and we may need to procure services or recruit staff, Members are asked to approve that the Chief Executive be granted delegated authority to approve such actions, providing there is no cost to the Council that would otherwise require a supplementary estimate, and following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee. Approval of the Officer's recommendation would allow Officers more flexibility in responding to project developments.
- 2.19 Updates on progress in relation to the projects listed in Appendix 'A' will be provided to this Committee going forward, including details of decisions taken under delegated authority, if approved.

3. **Legal Considerations**

3.1 The development of individual projects, including those needing to be implemented quickly, will give rise to legal considerations, where this involves procuring services or recruiting staff, amongst other matters.

4. **Equality implications**

4.1 There are no equality implications resulting from this specific report. However, equalities implications will need to be considered within the development of individual projects which are all aimed at achieving a positive outcome for people with protected characteristics.

5. **Environmental/Sustainability/Biodiversity implications**

5.1 There are no environmental implications resulting from this specific report. However, such implications will need to be considered within the development of individual projects. Members are asked to note that in rows 18 and 19 of Appendix 'A', consideration of the net zero agenda has been included.

6. **Conclusions**

6.1 Officers have put a significant amount of work into the development of relationships with health and social care partners in the last three to four years. As a result, Runnymede, together with the other three NW Surrey boroughs, are recognised as key partners within the integrated health and care agenda.

6.2 Such significant funding has never previously been awarded to borough councils from NHS funding streams. Officers consider this demonstrates the trust placed in boroughs to deliver high quality services and of their understanding of the wider health and care agenda.

6.3 Officers hope that by demonstrating value for money and quality, this is just the start of an ongoing financial commitment to borough councils in the development and delivery of services that meet the needs of residents locally.

(To resolve)

Background Papers

None stated.