

CABINET

DATE	12 th March 2025
REPORT OF	Councillor Stan Shreeve, Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Diane Lee - Director of Public Health
SUBJECT	Drugs and Alcohol Treatment & Recovery Funding 2025-2026
STATUS	Open
FORWARD PLAN REF NO.	CB 03/25/04

CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIMS

The allocated Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Grant (DATRIG) from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) will contribute the Strategic Aims set out in the adopted Council Plan by enabling North East Lincolnshire to deliver locally the outcomes outlined in the Government's "From Harm to Hope" 10-year Drug Plan (delivering a world-class treatment and recovery system).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The grant funding is the year 4 (indicative) allocated amount awarded to North East Lincolnshire Council Public Health by OHID as part of the dedicated funding over the Spending Review period announced by the Government, to rebuild drug treatment and recovery services, including those for young people and offenders.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Authorises the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care to accept the £1,778,145 indicative funding from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities on behalf of the Council.
2. Delegates authority to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care to implement all actions and ancillary matters reasonably arising within the conditionality of such funding to deliver the anticipated outcomes
3. Authorises the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) to complete and execute all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.

REASONS FOR DECISION

As stated above the allocated funding is to continue to rebuild drug treatment and recovery services, including those for young people and offenders and to deliver

locally the outcomes outlined in the 10-year drug plan.

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

There is a strong association between socioeconomic position, social exclusion and substance-related harm. Evidence shows that those from vulnerable and disadvantaged groups such as people living in more deprived areas, with lower individual resources and socioeconomic capital are at greater risk of drug and alcohol related harm.

Offering access to personalised high-quality drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services is essential for enhancing safety, reducing health inequalities, and supporting individuals in achieving positive outcomes. Equitable access to these services not only benefits the individual's receiving treatment, but also contributes to the well-being of their families, children, and the wider community.

1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

NELC Public Health have been allocated the following funding:
2025 – 2026 £1,778,145 (indicative)

The allocated funding is to:

- deliver world-class treatment and recovery services – rebuild local authority commissioned substance use services, improving quality, capacity and outcomes.
- rebuild the professional workforce – develop and deliver a comprehensive substance use workforce strategy.
- ensure better integration of services – making sure that people's physical and mental health needs are addressed to reduce harm and support recovery.
- improve access to accommodation alongside treatment – access to quality treatment for everyone sleeping rough, and better support for accessing and maintaining secure and safe housing.
- increase referrals into treatment in the criminal justice system – specialist drug workers to support treatment requirements as part of community sentences so offenders engage in drug treatment.
- keep prisoners engaged in treatment after release – improved engagement of people before they leave prison and better continuity of care into the community.

2. RISKS, OPPORTUNITIES AND EQUALITY ISSUES

The main risk is continuity of funding post 2026 but we have, as far as possible, been assured by OHID that this will not be the case.

The main opportunity is to continue the process of rebuilding the drug treatment and recovery services in NEL and therefore providing for all in NEL access to support for alcohol and other drugs needs.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

To not to accept the funding/sign the Memorandum of Understanding resulting in the loss of the funding and subsequently not being able to deliver on the required outcomes of the Government's 10-year drug plan.

4. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

4.1. No reputational issues identified.

4.2. An action plan will be agreed with the council's communications team, covering the funding coming into North East Lincolnshire for provision of services for those with substance use needs. Discussions are ongoing

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This proposal will be funded through the allocated OHID funding only. The funding is supplementary to the Public Health Grant. There will be no call on the council's reserves and there is no risk in relation to this allocated funding. The proposal will enhance the current offer to the citizens of North East Lincolnshire who are affected by substance use.

6. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPLICATIONS

As stated, the allocated funding covers substance use services for children and young people and therefore the services will be developed in line with the 10-year drug plan and local need. It is also the case that in developing the adult services this will, where applicable, have a positive effect on areas such as family relationships, parenting, safeguarding, etc.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE, NATURE RECOVERY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

This proposal will have no negative effect on the environment and could add to the continuing reduction of discarded clinical waste such as used syringes as individuals access help for their substance use needs.

8. CONSULTATION WITH SCRUTINY

There has been no consultation with Scrutiny.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The recommendation to accept the grant will result in additional funding being available to deliver service objectives. Whilst the acceptance of the grant itself does not bring any significant risk, grant allocations and funding availability

post 2026 needs to be monitored.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. Immediate legal implications arising will be around the terms and conditions of the external grant funding and the completion of funding agreements and ancillary documentation. Legal Services will support this process, ensuring the interests of the Council are protected.
- 10.2. As individual projects arise throughout the delivery phase Legal Services will continue to support colleagues.
- 10.3. The delegations sought are appropriate to an exercise of this nature.

11. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct HR implications.

12. WARD IMPLICATIONS

All wards will be affected indirectly as a result of this funding.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

(From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk))

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/extra-funding-for-drug-and-alcohol-treatment-2023-to-2025/additional-drug-and-alcohol-treatment-funding-allocations-2023-to-2024-and-2024-to-2025>

From harm to hope: first annual report 2022 to 2023 (accessible) - GOV.UK

14. CONTACT OFFICER(S)

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