

Adult Social Care Committee

Item No

Report title:	Revenue Budget 2016-17 – Proposals for Allocation of Transitional Funding and Rural Services Delivery Grant
Date of meeting:	16 May 2016
Responsible Chief Officer:	Harold Bodmer – Executive Director for Adult Social Services
Strategic impact <p>This report provides the Committee with details of proposals for the use of Transitional Funding and additional Rural Services Delivery Grant held in the budget for 2016-17, which have been identified in respect of the services for which the Committee is responsible.</p> <p>The report also sets out the timetable for the process to agree the use of this funding in 2016-17.</p>	

Executive summary

The Council received late notification of additional funding as part of the Final Local Government Finance on 8 February 2016. This funding was applied in the 2016-17 Budget to provide transitional funding to manage business risk. A process for making decisions about the use of this funding was considered and agreed by the Policy and Resources Committee in March 2016.

Proposals in relation to Adult Social Care Committee have been developed and are set out in this report for Members' comments.

Recommendation:

The Committee is asked to:

- a) Consider and recommend the proposed use of additional funding as set out in this report to enable Policy and Resources Committee to consider proposals in the round and make a recommendation on the use of this funding to County Council**

1. Background

- 1.1 The Final Local Government Settlement 2016-17 confirmed by Parliament on 10 February 2016 set out details of additional funding made up of Transition Grant and Rural Services Delivery Grant. There was also a small reduction in the Council's New Homes Bonus Grant allocation. These changes resulted in net additional funding from Government of £4.561m in 2016-17.

- 1.2 The County Council set aside the additional funding for 2016-17 as transitional funding to manage business risk. It was noted that the late notice of the additional funding had made it inappropriate to propose the allocation of the funding in the time available, and that Service Committees would wish to have the opportunity to comment on priorities for its use.
- 1.3 The following parameters for the use of the additional funding were set out:
- a) the money will be spent in the new financial year;
 - b) any spending must be sustainable; and
 - c) invest to save initiatives must be paramount
- 1.4 The Council faces a number of significant budget risks in 2016-17. It would therefore be prudent for the Council to retain some flexibility within the additional funding for 2016-17 in order to manage these risks. The key risks include:
- a) The outcomes of local Better Care Fund negotiations with the NHS;
 - b) The outcomes of the Adults Cost of Care work;
 - c) The pressure arising from National Living Wage in contracts; and
 - d) The need to ensure delivery of savings proposals in 2016-17

2. Decision-Making Timetable

- 2.1 Policy and Resources Committee approved the following timetable for decision-making on the use of the additional funding available:
- a) Service Committees to bring forward proposals in the **May 2016** committee round, taking into account the criteria set out at 1.3
 - b) Policy and Resources Committee to consider Service Committee proposals in the round on **31 May 2016** in order to recommend an overall package of activity
 - c) County Council to consider and approve the recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee on **25 July 2016**

3. Committee Proposals

- 3.1 Proposals for use of this additional funding relating to the budgets controlled by this Committee have been identified totalling £2.240m. The table below sets out further detail of these proposals.
- 3.2 Committee have agreed the Promoting Independence Strategy as the key means of managing demand for adult social care services in order to ensure sustainability for the service. Committee will also be aware that there is a challenging savings target of approximately £42M relating to Promoting Independence to be delivered over the next three years.
- 3.3 In view of this the departments spend to save proposals relate entirely to Promoting Independence.

Table 1: Adult Social Care Committee proposals for use of additional funding 2016-17

Ref	Description of proposal Provide a brief narrative summary of the funding bid, including details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the proposal meets the criteria or is otherwise a priority. • any implications if the spending is not approved. • any impact on other areas of the budget / other services from this proposal. 	2016-17 Funding requirement £m	Criteria			Committee Priority Ranking 1= top priority 2,3,4 etc.
			2016-17 expenditure	Sustainable	Invest to save	
ASC01	<p>Investment required to meet Promoting Independence Strategy The strategy covers a range of inter-related interventions that together will enable people to remain independent from public services as long as possible. The proposal therefore covers a number of key interventions, which together support the delivery of the overall savings to be delivered through the Promoting Independence strategy of £42m over the next three years.</p> <p>Recruit expert skills to secure housing required to meet Promoting Independence Strategy (£0.058m). Successful implementation and delivery of repackaging of care for people with learning disabilities, physical disability and mental health issues, to support people to live more independently, requires access to suitable housing, which is taking time to develop. The proposal is for a one year Housing Development Post (Grade L) to work within the Promoting Independence programme – the post will explore and determine the range of options for delivering the accommodation needs of clients. The post holder will align policy and practice to accommodate preferred delivery routes and communicate intentions to possible partners, formulating delivery plans and timescales. Other authorities have utilised the expertise of housing professionals to deliver their housing objectives and in Norfolk there is an established need to move people from high dependency, high cost accommodation to more cost effective and independent accommodation. Housing needs require prioritisation across the authority and a housing lead to deliver the required units. They would work with district councils, social housing providers and private developers, to an agreed brief, but with the autonomy to deliver accommodation through new models.</p> <p>This will support delivery of on-going savings totalling £3.500m. Without funding the creation of suitable accommodation, transition to will be delayed and it will take longer to achieve the savings.</p>		Y	Y	Y	1

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			2016-17 expenditure	Sustainable	Invest to save	
	<p>Increasing amount of Assistive Technology and Occupational Therapy Equipment Costs to prevent, delay and reduce the need for formal care packages (£0.892m). Use of Assistive Technology (AT) and Occupational Therapy (OT) equipment is a critical tool in reducing the need or formal care and in the delivery of Promoting Independence. Other authorities have made significant use of AT to deliver savings and it is particularly relevant in rural areas.</p> <p>This proposal is in two parts:</p> <p>‘To test the impact of providing AT and Occupational Therapy equipment to people who do not currently meet the eligibility criteria for services but where it will delay the need for formal care services’.</p> <p>‘To maximise the use of AT for people who are eligible for services by ensuring that this is routinely included as part of the assessment process and more readily available’.</p> <p>Both of these proposals will require an increase in OT equipment by 25%. It is proposed to implement this in 2016/17 and to fund in future years from savings generated. This would, therefore, be ‘seed funding’ to enable the initiative to get off the ground, with no ongoing commitments for the funding.</p> <p>Increase capacity for enablement services through increasing the number of staff in Norfolk First Support and via recommissioning (£0.762m). This invest to save proposal will support the second phase of the reablement project – delivering a service to people with Learning Disability and mental health problems, enabling people to live more independently. At the moment the service is focussed entirely on older people. This will assist with the commissioning of and additional service to work with people of working age, helping to deliver the reablement savings. The proposal is based on costings for 2FTE staff (Grade J) 3FTE (grade G) and 25FTE (Grade E) but would be ‘market tested’. A successful pilot has been carried out in a Housing with Care</p>	1.890				

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			2016-17 expenditure	Sustainable	Invest to save	
	<p>scheme for people with learning disabilities. The expenditure will be used in 2016/17. It is sustainable as it will support the transition period and is therefore needed for a limited time. The investment of £761,565 will support the delivery of reablement savings of £5.153M. This additional resource will enable this saving to be delivered in a timely manner.</p> <p>Increase the number of development workers (£0.178m). To support the Promoting Independence customer pathway through providing people with preventative community alternatives to Council social care. These workers would be recruited and deployed in partnership with District Council partners. This will support community development work with independent groups and help to increase community capacity, resource information sharing and working with individuals to connect people to resources. Resources will be used in 2016/17 and can be recruited to on a fixed term basis. The work will support the delivery of the customer pathway saving of £31.8M.</p>					
ASC02	<p>Investing in the voluntary sector to support social inclusion (£0.100m). Social inclusion has been identified as a key factor in the health and wellbeing of older people but also for the wider community. Enhancing community connectedness, 'activating' communities and building social capital is essential to the delivery of PI and delivering self-sustaining and supportive communities.</p> <p>The voluntary sector plays a key role in supporting and motivating communities; studies from other parts of the country indicate that they can play an important role in identifying and working with community contacts that facilitate and promote wider inclusion and activity.</p> <p>NCC, in conjunction with five Norfolk CCGs has a good working relationship with voluntary sector providers both through the delivery of formally contracted services and through the network of contacts that constitute the provider</p>	0.100	Y	Y	Y	2

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			2016-17 expenditure	Sustainable	Invest to save	
	<p>community. It is proposed that a social inclusion project is built on the back of existing funding and contacts.</p> <p>The funding would provide two community capacity facilitators (employed by voluntary sector for one year) who would facilitate and encourage the development of social inclusion initiatives – on small scale and using mini grants to promote projects. It is proposed that £70k is used to employ the two workers and £30k is used over the year as grants with a maximum grant value to be set at £1,000. Existing criteria for the grants would be agreed and grants approved in partnership between the voluntary sector and NCC.</p> <p>Efficiencies would be achieved through impact on customer pathway and creation of community resilience. Impact would be targeted, measured and evaluated and would form part of the PI overall strategy, supporting delivery of the wider customer pathway savings totalling £31.8m.</p>					
ASC03	<p>To develop an integrated team, which can provide central brokerage for health and social care commissioning of provider services (£0.250m).</p> <p>This is to support the ongoing discussion with CCGs regarding the 2016/17 shortfall within the Norfolk health and social care system of over £7m, by investing in a project to enable the prompt implementation of a central brokerage team, to commission, in particular, continuing health care (CHC) services across Norfolk by October 2016. At present CHC services are procured through either the CCG or NEL Commissioning Support Unit. The rates achieved across the system are variable and there is duplication of effort. System wide savings will be generated from reduction in back office overheads and improved rates. Reduced costs for CCGs can then be used via the Better Care Fund to help maintain funding for social care. The ongoing team would be supported through funding from contributions from across the health sector. Initial estimates suggest that savings in the region of £2.5m could be achieved, which would secure the same level of funding for protection of social care. This proposal is subject to the ongoing risk share discussions with the five CCGs.</p>	£0.250m	Y	Y	Y	3

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			2016-17 expenditure	Sustainable	Invest to save	
Total		2.240				

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 All Committees have been invited to put forward proposals for the use of this additional funding in 2016-17. These will be considered by Policy and Resources Committee on 31 May. In the event that the funding proposals exceed the available amount of additional funding, Policy and Resources Committee will consider the overall balance and scope of proposals alongside the priority ranking from Service Committees in order to put forward a balanced package of proposals for approval by County Council on 25 July 2016.

Background Papers

[Revenue Budget 2016-17 – Allocation of Transitional Funding and Rural Services Delivery Grant, agenda item 6, Policy and Resources Committee 21 March 2016](#)

[Norfolk County Council Revenue and Capital Budget 2016-20 and Council Plan 2016-19, agenda item 4, County Council 22 February 2016](#)

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

Officer Name:	Tel No:	Email address:
Susanne Baldwin	01603 228843	susanne.baldwin@norfolk.gov.uk



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