

## ***Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Public Health & Equality***

***Tuesday, 25 April 2023 at 9.00 am***

***Room 2 - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND***

If you wish to view proceedings, please click on this [Live Stream Link](#).  
However, that will not allow you to participate in the meeting.

### ***Items for Decision***

The items for decision under individual Cabinet Members' delegated powers are listed overleaf, with indicative timings, and the related reports are attached. Decisions taken will become effective at the end of the working day on 2<sup>nd</sup> Mat 2023 unless called in by that date for review by the appropriate Scrutiny Committee.

Copies of the reports are circulated (by e-mail) to all members of the County Council.

**These proceedings are open to the public**



Martin Reeves  
Chief Executive

April 2023

*Committee Officer:*                    **Committee Services**  
*Email:* [committees.democraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:committees.democraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

*Note:*    *Date of next meeting:* 6 June 2023

**If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named on the front page, but please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.**

## Items for Decision

- 1. Declaration of Interest**
- 2. Questions from County Councillors**

Any county councillor may, by giving notice to the Proper Officer by 9 am two working days before the meeting, ask a question on any matter in respect of the Cabinet Member's delegated powers.

The number of questions which may be asked by any councillor at any one meeting is limited to two (or one question with notice and a supplementary question at the meeting) and the time for questions will be limited to 30 minutes in total. As with questions at Council, any questions which remain unanswered at the end of this item will receive a written response.

Questions submitted prior to the agenda being despatched are shown below and will be the subject of a response from the appropriate Cabinet Member or such other councillor or officer as is determined by the Cabinet Member, and shall not be the subject of further debate at this meeting. Questions received after the despatch of the agenda, but before the deadline, will be shown on the Schedule of Addenda circulated at the meeting, together with any written response which is available at that time.

- 3. Petitions and Public Address**

*Members of the public who wish to speak at this meeting can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection.*

*Requests to speak must be submitted by no later than 9am four working days before the meeting.*

*Requests to speak should be sent to [committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:committeesdemocraticservices@oxfordshire.gov.uk)*

*If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit a written statement of your presentation to ensure that if the technology fails, then your views can still be taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9 am 2 working days before the meeting. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.*

- 4. Children & Young People Substance Misuse Service Budget Envelope Increase (Pages 1 - 6)**

*Forward Plan Ref: 2023/044*

*Contact: Sam Casey-rerhaye, Health Improvement Practitioner, [Sam.Casey-Rerhaye@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.Casey-Rerhaye@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)*

Report by Corporate Director for Public Health & Wellbeing (**CMDPHE** ).

To approve the proposed increase in the budget envelope for the full contract.

## **Councillors declaring interests**

### **General duty**

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed 'Declarations of Interest' or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

### **What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?**

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (i.e. payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

### **Declaring an interest**

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

### **Members' Code of Conduct and public perception**

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member 'must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself' and that 'you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned'.

### **Members Code – Other registrable interests**

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to the financial interest or wellbeing of one of your other registerable interests then you must declare an interest. You must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and you must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Wellbeing can be described as a condition of contentedness, healthiness and happiness; anything that could be said to affect a person's quality of life, either positively or negatively, is likely to affect their wellbeing.

Other registrable interests include:

- a) Any unpaid directorships

- b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority.
- c) Any body (i) exercising functions of a public nature (ii) directed to charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

### **Members Code – Non-registrable interests**

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to your financial interest or wellbeing (and does not fall under disclosable pecuniary interests), or the financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate, you must declare the interest.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which affects your own financial interest or wellbeing, a financial interest or wellbeing of a relative or close associate or a financial interest or wellbeing of a body included under other registrable interests, then you must declare the interest.

In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied:

Where a matter affects the financial interest or well-being:

- a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest.

You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting. Otherwise you must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.

## Divisions Affected - ALL

### CABINET MEMBER

25 April 2023

## Budget Approval for Children & Young People's Substance Misuse Service

Report by Ansaf Azhar (Director for Public Health)

### RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member is **RECOMMENDED** to

Approve the budget of £3.5 million for the Children & Young People's (CYP) Substance Use Service.

### Executive Summary

2. The government launched their new strategy: [From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan](#) in December 2021, after a national review by [Dame Carol Black](#) in 2020/21. The strategy has specific targets to increase the number of people in treatment services and improve the quality and size of the workforce amongst other aims. The new Oxfordshire CYP Substance Use service, which started on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, includes 2 trial phases of additional requirements as well as a mechanism to allow for an annual cost review to cover increased costs subject to Council agreement.
3. To enable this service to attain those increase targets through the trial phases and to cover any agreed annual increase, the budget needs to increase.
4. The total proposed increase in the annual budget envelope for the full contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 is £500,000 which is more than 25% of the current level.
5. The contract term is 7 years with break clauses at the end of years 3 and years 5
6. Therefore, the decision needs approval as a Key Decision according to the Council's constitution.

7.

Existing Annual Budget	Proposed Annual Budget Envelope	25% of Existing Budget =	Proposed increase =
£372,814	£500,000	£93,203	£127,186

## Exempt Information

8. None

## Corporate Policies and Priorities

9. **Oxfordshire County Council's Strategic Plan 2020-2025** (see [Corporate Plan](#)) has as some of its priorities:

- Tackle inequalities in Oxfordshire
- Prioritise the health and well-being of Oxfordshire's residents
- Create opportunities for children & young people to reach their full potential

10. The **Director of Public Health Report 2019-20<sup>1</sup>** shows that even before the pandemic and the recent and future steep cost of living increases:

'Oxfordshire is one of the most affluent areas of the country. This hides the astonishing fact that there are 10 wards in Oxfordshire which feature areas which are in the 20% most deprived in England.'

11. The **Public Health Drug & Alcohol Partnership Strategy 2020-2024** identifies as its first priority:

**Reducing the risks to children and young people associated with substance misuse**, including:

- Combatting Country Drugs Lines and Child Drug Exploitation, to safeguard children and young people from this risk
- Identifying and addressing substance misuse in parents, to reduce the impact on children and parents.

12. Specialist interventions for young people's substance misuse are effective and provide value for money. A Department for Education cost-benefit analysis found that every £1 invested saved £1.93 within two years and up to £8.38 in the long term. Specialist services engage young people quickly, the majority of whom leave in a planned way and do not return to treatment services. This indicates that investing in specialist interventions is a cost-effective way of securing long-term outcomes, reducing future demand on health, social care, youth justice and mental health services (DforE 2010).

## Financial Implications

13. This will require a budget increase of £127,186 per annum which will be managed within the main Public Health grant.

---

<sup>1</sup> [PublicHealthAnnualReportMay2020 \(oxfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Stephen Rowles, Assistant Finance Business Partner for Adult Social Care and Public Health.

## **Legal Implications**

14. There are no legal implications for the Council.

Bede Murtagh, Contracts Solicitor.

## **Staff Implications**

15. There are no staffing implications for the Council.

## **Equality & Inclusion Implications**

16. The budget increase allows the service to focus on increasing the number of children and young people who benefit from this service by the new ways of engaging and working with them and their families. The service specification that the provider will be monitored against is clear in its requirements for the service to ensure it is in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

## **Sustainability Implications**

17. There are no sustainability implications

## **Risk Management**

18. The increase in budget has been risk assessed and the mitigations are:

- Changes in services are on a trial basis and will be evaluated on their impact before it is agreed to be made permanent
- The risk of annual increases as a result of increased costs has been mitigated by a contractual clause that states it is at the discretion of the Council.

Ansaf Azhar  
Director for Public Health

Annex: Annex 1: Further details for the proposal

Background papers: Business Case for CYP Substance Misuse Service and Budget Update for provision of CYP Substance Misuse Service.

Contact Officer: Sam Casey-Rerhaye Health Improvement Practitioner  
[sam.casey-rerhaye@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sam.casey-rerhaye@oxfordshire.gov.uk) 07554103567

April 2023

(Annex 1 below)



## **Annexe 1: Further details for the proposal**

### **Increased Budget Envelope for the Children & young people's Substance Misuse Service**

1. The Children's & Young People's Substance Misuse Service (CYPSMS) is commissioned by Public Health (PH) as part of the suite of substance misuse treatment services in Oxfordshire. The service works very closely within the County Council's Family & Children's Centres, being a community service distributed around the county. This is a service that offers support for both substance misuse by children and for children who live with someone who misuses substances. It is currently provided by Aquarius Actions Projects.
2. The current contract ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. The annual value has been £333,500 each year up to 2022-23. The Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery grant (SSMTRG) enabled PH to award a further £33,814 to this service for 2022-23 to achieve some specific outcomes on staff training and retention measures, in line with some of the strategic aims of the grant from Office of Health Improvement and Disparities.
3. The key aims of the service are:
  - To enable children and young people to stop, or significantly reduce, their misuse of drugs or alcohol
  - To build the resilience and coping skills of children and young people whose parents or other family members misuse drugs or alcohol
  - To contribute to reducing the negative impacts of drugs and alcohol on children and young people's educational achievement, longer term employment prospects and their overall health and wellbeing
  - To contribute to reducing drug and alcohol A&E attendances, inpatient admissions and deaths related to substance misuse
  - To contribute to reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and the exploitation of children and young people that is associated with the misuse of drugs or alcohol
  - To contribute to reducing the transmission and spread of blood borne viruses associated with drug use
  - To contribute to reducing sexually transmitted diseases and teenage pregnancy by reducing risky behaviours related to drug and alcohol use
4. The COVID-19 pandemic meant there were fewer opportunities for young people to be referred to substance misuse services. Nationally, there was a 23% reduction in the number of young people having contact with drug and alcohol service and a 55% reduction in the number in treatment since 2008/09.
5. The government launched their new strategy: [From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan](#) in December 2021, after a national review by [Dame Carol Black](#) in 2020/21. The strategy has specific targets to increase the number of people in treatment services and improve the quality and size of the workforce amongst other aims.

6. The specification for the new Oxfordshire CYP service, currently being commissioned to start in April 2023, includes 2 trial phases of additional requirements. One is to expand the age range of the service to up to 25 years and the second is for a whole family therapy offer. Once these pilots have run for 6-12 months and there is some data to give evidence of their effectiveness, we can decide whether to incorporate them permanently into the main service. The expansion of the service means the budget envelope needs expanding too.
7. The service contract term will be for up to 7 years, with break clauses at the end of year 3 and year 5. There is a mechanism in the contract for annual cost reviews without obligation on the Council but these could mean an increase in the amount paid to the provider is agreed.
8. The provider is also commissioned by PH and the Youth Justice and Exploitation Service to provide a project called 'Diversion' in partnership with Thames Valley Police. This is for young people stopped in possession of drugs and is delivered for the price of £19,000 per year, and will continue in the new service contract. This part of the service is also subject to, without obligation, annual cost reviews.
9. The total proposed increase in the budget envelope for the full contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 is £500,00 which is more than 25% of the current level. Therefore, the decision needs approval in a Delegated Decision according to the Council's constitution.

Existing Annual Budget	Proposed Annual Budget Envelope	25% of Existing Budget =	Proposed increase =
£372,814	£500,000	£93,203	£127,186