

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health
Date:	22 July 2022
Title:	Variations to Stop Domestic Abuse Contract utilising New Burdens Funding from Department for Levelling up Housing and Communities (DLUHC)
Report From:	Director of Public Health

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health approves the proposed additional spend to Stop Domestic Abuse for services provided to Domestic Abuse support, to a maximum of £1,500,000 additional spend for 2022/23.
- 1.2. That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health delegates authority to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Executive Member, to approve the exact figure of additional spend on this contract for each future year (from 2023/24 onwards), dependent on the level of available government funding provided each year under the New Burdens Fund, up to a maximum of the total funding provided each year, over the remaining years of the contract.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 seeks to raise awareness and understanding about the devastating impact of domestic abuse on victims and their families; further improve the effectiveness of the justice system in providing protection for victims of domestic abuse and bringing perpetrators to justice; along with strengthening the support for victims of abuse by statutory agencies.
- 2.2. The County Council has a duty under the Act to assess the need and demand for safe accommodation and accommodation-based support and to subsequently develop and publish strategies, giving effect to these strategies by making commissioning decisions.
- 2.3. The Hampshire Safe Accommodation Needs assessment was undertaken in 2021, identifying key areas that would have a positive impact on the provision of safe accommodation for victims.

- 2.4. At the time of awarding the current Domestic Abuse contract, it was anticipated that there would be future additional grant funding, which was intended to be channelled through the contracted providers.
- 2.5. Increasing spend through this contract would add capacity to current domestic abuse services, in particular in regard to safe accommodation support, in line with requirements on Hampshire County Council under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. To not provide increased funding through the current Domestic Abuse contract. However, this would mean there is not additional support available to those experiencing domestic abuse in Hampshire and limit the ability of Hampshire County Council to fulfil requirements under the new Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: none.
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: none.

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: N/A

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: N/A

7. Statement from the decision maker:

Approved by:

Date:

Councillor Liz Fairhurst
Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health

22 July 2022