## **Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision**

**Reference Number:** 

4511





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Department:	Finance and Resources
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Subject:	Allocation of NHS Test and Trace funding for upper tier local authorities in respect of the Self Isolation Framework
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Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):	Yes
Key Decision (decision affects 2 or more wards):	Yes
Total Value:	£1,106,000.00 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	1) To accept the NHS Test and Trace funding for upper tier local authorities in respect of the Self Isolation Framework from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).
	2) To note part of the funding has been utilised by Nottingham City Council to develop and deliver support and services for citizens who are required to self isolate.
	3) To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources to allocate the remainder of the funding to the Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service under a grant agreement in accordance to the conditions of the Grant Agreement from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the local authority Framework

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Reasons for the Decision(s) The Minister of State for the DHSC has exercised use of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 to provide funding to local authorities to provide practical support for those in self isolation. Nottingham City Council has been allocated money under such Grant determination. The scope of this grant is detailed in the document 'Self-Isolation Practical Support Framework', (The Framework) is to support councils in providing a triaging process and a non-financial support package for individuals who are required to self-isolate and need practical, social or emotional support to do so. For example, in accessing food where they are unable to rely on family, friends or other support networks. Additionally the grant enables support to people who do not have alternative support networks in carrying out essential tasks and social/emotional support. Nottingham City will utilise part of the funding to develop and deliver such support services. The Self-Isolation Support Framework advises that Local Authorities, along with Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) partners are best placed to understand the needs, demand, capacity and infrastructure in their local areas and recommend the funding is used dynamically and creatively to support self isolation through practical measures in the most appropriate way. Funding can be used to deliver direct services or to fund delivery partners, including VCS organisations. Nottingham City Council currently provide this service to individuals identifying a need and intend to allocate the remainder of funding to the Nottingham Voluntary Community Sector (NCVS) to distribute in accordance to the conditions of the Framework and the Grant Agreement. This will ensure that the funding most effectively reaches those who need the support. The specifications of allocations will be captured as part of portfolio holder briefings. Other Options Considered: 1) To not accept the grant; this option is rejected, as the grant is needed to support those self isolating and is being provided to the Council in order to assist its citizens. None Background Papers: Published Works: **Local Government Act 2003** Affected Wards: Citywide Colleague / Councillor None Interests: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision. Consultations:

Crime and Disorder Implications:	None
Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: This decision does not represent proposals for a change to a policy, service or function.
Decision Type:	Leader's Key Decision
Subject to Call In:	Yes
Call In Expiry date:	03/02/2022
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance

Legal Advice:

This report seeks authority to accept grant funding from the DHSC to support those in need during periods of self-isolation.

It is understood that the funding has been received and part of it used directly by the Council to deliver support to date. It is the intention to enter into a grant agreement with NCVS for them to use the remainder of the funding to provide the support to those self-isolating.

The DHSC has provided money specifically to Local Authorities for this purpose and the Council must only use it in accordance with the LA Framework which has been issued. The Framework itself anticipates that the Council will work with VCS organisations in order to deliver this support.

The Council must ensure that the money is used in accordance with the Grant Determination and Framework Conditions and should ensure that there is a Grant Agreement in place with NCVS to provide appropriate monitoring and reporting of the spend, the right to terminate and clawback provisions. Under the Grant Agreement, it is understood that NCVS will administer the grants via a grant allocation process in order to legitimately identify citizens in need.

The individual grant allocations are likely to be small in value and restricted to local allocations under the City Council's grant funding but should be administered in a way that ensures compliance with the new subsidy control regime. Advice provided by Dionne Claire Screaton (Solicitor) on 25/01/2022.

## **Finance Advice:**

This decision seeks approval to receive and spend a covid related grant of £1.106m from the Department of Health and Social Care. The grant is in relation to Self Isolation Support framework and should only be spent on supporting this agenda. For Nottingham, this is via a mixture of direct internal costs in supporting those self isolating and externally via a grant to NCVS.

All spend should be in line with grant terms and conditions and only be spent in financial year 2021/22 unless there is formal agreement for any carry forward in 22/23.

The service should monitor spend against the grant allocation accordingly to only spend within the resources available to ensure there is no adverse financial impact to NCC. Advice provided by Philip Gretton (Finance Analyst) on 25/01/2022.

## Signatures:

David Mellen (Leader/ PH Strategic Regeneration Communications)

**SIGNED and Dated: 27/01/2022** 

**Clive Heaphy (Interim Corporate Director for Finance & Resources)** 

SIGNED and Dated: 27/01/2022

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