

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	2302
Author:	Rachel Sokal
Department:	Children and Families
Contact:	Rachel Sokal (Job Title: Consultant in Public Health, Email: rachel.sokal@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 0115 8764367)
Subject:	FP10 Community Prescription Charges - Public Health 2015/16
Total Value:	£548,000 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	To approve quarters 1 & 2 spend of £548,000 (£274,000 per quarter) from the Public Health grant to reimburse Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for prescription costs. These costs are related to the prescribing within local authority commissioned public health services (viz. drugs and alcohol, sexual health and smoking cessation) and therefore are the financial responsibility of the local authority.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>Under the Health and Social Care Act 2010 the local authority has a responsibility to commission public health services. These include: drugs and alcohol services, smoking cessation support and sexual health services, each of which involves the prescription of medications to service users. Funding for these services is included within the Public Health grant.</p> <p>Whilst the responsibility and funding for these services lies with Nottingham City Council, the costs associated with prescribing are borne by Nottingham City CCG. These costs relate to payments to the community pharmacy where a prescription is dispensed and the cost of the prescription drugs themselves. As such, it is necessary to reimburse the Nottingham City CCG for the costs.</p>
Other Options Considered:	Other options for funding of prescription charges include: - joint commissioning and a pooled budget between the local authority and CCG. This is being explored as part the integration of health and social care commissioning for 2016-17.
Background Papers:	N/A

Published Works:	N/A
Affected Wards:	Citywide
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	None
Consultations:	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
Crime and Disorder Implications:	<p>Prescription charges include those arising from drugs and alcohol treatment services. Alcohol related crime alone costs England around £11bn per year and is believed to account for around nearly half of all violent incidents.</p> <p>Effective drug and alcohol treatment services are an integral part of crime and disorder management.</p>
Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: There are no new services or direct changes from the decision to reimburse the CCG for these costs.
Regard for NHS Constitution:	Local authorities have a statutory duty to have regard to the NHS Constitution when exercising their public health functions under the NHS Act 2006. In making this decision relating to public health functions, we have properly considered the NHS Constitution where applicable and have taken into account how it can be applied in order to commission services to improve the health of the local community.
Decision Type:	Portfolio Holder
Subject to Call In:	Yes
Call In Expiry date:	21/01/2016
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance
Legal Advice:	This report raises no significant legal concerns, the costs having been incurred as part of the Council's duty to commission public health services under the HSCA 2010. Advice provided by Sarah O'Bradaigh (senior solicitor) on 07/01/2016.
Finance Advice:	<p>There is current ear-marked provision for the full cost of the decision within the 2015/16 Public Health budget.</p> <p>The decision aligns with the Public Health objectives set out in the 2015/16-2017/18 Medium Term Financial Plan.</p> <p>Advice provided by Tania Clayton Perez (Senior Finance Assistant) on 05/01/2016.</p>

Signatures

Alex Norris (Portfolio Holder for Adults and Health)
SIGNED and Dated: 14/01/2016
Alison Challenger (Director of Public Health (Interim))
SIGNED and Dated: 12/01/2016