

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards – Finance Advice

Approval was given in May 2015 to recruit 6 permanent social work posts to support the increase in demand for DoLS assessments at an annual cost of £0.199m (DDM 2125). This decision was predominantly funded by non-recurrent Department of Health (DoH) grant of £0.165m. This decision referred to central government considering longer term funding to support local authorities meet this significant increase in DoLS applications and any shortfall mitigated through vacancy management processes. To date, no announcements of funding have been released.

The cost of the proposals contained within this decision is detailed in **Table 1** below.

TABLE 1 - DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES			
Proposal	No. of Posts FTE	Grade	Budget Requirement £
BIA Social Worker (Continuation of DDM 2125)	6	G	203,630
Additional BIA Social Worker	1	G	33,940
Additional Care Support Advisor	1	C	18,680
Dedicated CoP Social Work Posts	2	G	67,880
Solicitor (Top of Scale)	1	I	50,470
Train additional 3 BIA's per year			3,000
Increase Capacity of IMCA's, Mental Health Assessors and Paid Representatives			20,000
Vacancy Rate on Social Care Posts			(12,800)
Non Pay Budget			4,000
Total Cost			388,800

Funding to support this decision has been identified as follows:

2016/17 – Maximisation of the Better Care Fund (BCF) and Local Authority Care Act funding will allow sufficient funding carry forward to meet this cost. Allocations were based on national formulae and initial activity and costs have been below expectations.

2017/18 – Policy framework guidance issued in January 2016 by the DoH and Department for Communities and Local Government has confirmed the removal of the payment for performance framework from the BCF from 2016/17. This is recognised in 2016/17 as a one year saving in the proposals supporting the Council's 2016/17+ Medium Term Financial Plan with budget provision being available to support this decision in 2017/18.

The resources identified within this decision will enable the Council to meet its statutory duties in respect of DoLS social work provision. Should demand require

any further resource requirements, this will be subject to further appropriate approval.

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31 March 2016