

## Healthwatch Future Funding for the Period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2023 - Finance Advice

Local Healthwatch (LHW) organisations have been established since April 2013 as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and it is a statutory requirement that local authorities with social care responsibilities commission a LHW. The service is funded predominantly through a Department of Health Grant, the Local Reform and Community Voices (LRCV) Grant to the annual value of £108k with the remaining allocation identified through a reduction in contractual commitments on non-care universal services within the social care budget included within the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan. The profile of spend and funding over the 5 year term is detailed in **Table 1** below.

<b>TABLE 1 - PROFILE OF HEALTHWATCH FUNDING</b>						
	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Healthwatch (Local Reform & Community Voices Grant)	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	540,000
Healthwatch - Adult Social Care Funding	30,000	15,000				45,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>138,000</b>	<b>123,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>	<b>585,000</b>

It should be noted that the LRCV Department of Health grant allocation is confirmed on an annual basis and should the value of the grant reduce over the five year term, a further decision will be required through the appropriate governance process.

This decision requires dispensation from Contract Procedure Rules (5.1.2) in accordance with Financial Regulations 3.29, and considering the reasons detailed by the report author, is deemed appropriate in these circumstances.

Value for money will be achieved through the alternative model detailed in this decision supporting the delivery of efficiencies over the contract term.

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01 August 2017