

<b>Report of</b>	<b>Assistant Director of Communities</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Scott Danielsen</b>
<b>Title</b>	<p style="text-align: right;">☎ 2878</p> <b>External funding from North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (NEECCG) and East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust (ESNEFT)</b>		
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards		

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 New funding from system partners in health – the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (NEECCG) and East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust (ESNEFT) has been granted to tackle inequalities in health and wellbeing in the borough, thus providing us with an opportunity to increase capacity to deliver improved outcomes for our residents in the period of recovery from COVID-19. The funding totals £1,029,000 (though £464,000 of this has been earmarked for the voluntary and community sector). Similar funding has been granted to Tendring District Council.
- 1.2 The CCG on behalf of the NEE Health Alliance is keen to ensure that funding allocated for inequalities is closely linked to the work of the the local Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) and Council projects to reduce duplication and to support the alignment of our strategies to tackle inequalities linked to the Live Well domains, to ensure that Colchester does not miss this important opportunity this decision is for the Council to take receipt of funding for the provision of some key services as well as disseminating that funding on to other system partners on behalf of the funding bodies. The Council is a full and active partner in the Health and Wellbeing Alliance and supports partnership working principals and ensuring the best use of public funds within our communities. A Cabinet decision is required due to the level of funding involved.

## 2. Recommended Decision

- 2.1 It is recommended that we accept the funding on behalf of the Health Alliance and distribute it as per Health Alliance agreement.

## 3.0 Reason for Recommended Decision

- 3.1 This significant amount of funding is very welcome. It provides the means to address key strategic priorities for CBC and our wider partners, through the delivery of tangible workstreams. This vital funding is critical to addressing the existing health inequalities, exacerbated by Covid and adding much needed capacity to the charity and voluntary sector in Colchester and NE Essex, and, ultimately delivering improved outcomes in health and wellbeing for our residents while tackling deep-rooted inequalities.

## 4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 To reject the offer of additional funding from our health system partners. Or ask them to seek an alternative mechanism of distribution.

## 5. Background Information

- 5.1 Inequalities in health and wellbeing in Colchester are stark, both within the Borough and when the Borough is compared with county, regional and national averages. For example, while deprivation overall in Colchester is close to the national average, the picture within the Borough is more mixed. Life expectancy is 8.6 years lower for men and 8.0 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Colchester than in the least deprived areas. Despite our overall middle-of-the-road standing in deprivation, Colchester has the third highest suicide rate among all second tier and unitary authorities in England.
- 5.2 In Tendring, our partner district in the North East Essex Health and Wellbeing Alliance ('the Alliance'), the situation is often worse, for example, Tendring includes the most deprived area in England and has England's second highest suicide rate. Life expectancy is 10.6 years lower for men and 7.8 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Tendring than in the least deprived areas.
- 5.3 Recognising the direct links between reducing health inequalities and the role played by wider system partners, including the Borough Council, Voluntary and Community Sector, Health Funding has been allocated to both Colchester and Tendring to tackle deep-rooted inequalities across the North East Essex Region. A similar amount of funding has been granted to Tendring District Council - our partner council in the Alliance with whom we are working increasingly more closely in addressing health inequalities.
- 5.4 Reducing inequalities, particularly as they relate to the health and wellbeing of our residents - is a key priority within CBC's Strategic Plan. Furthermore, it is a key for our partnerships in ONE Colchester, the Sport England Local Delivery Pilot ("LDP") and the Alliance, as well as other partners across the system such as Essex County Council through the Levelling Up Agenda.
- 5.5 The Health Alliance have recently created an Inequalities Sub-group that reports directly to the Alliance Strategy Group. Colchester is well embedded within these structures with the Director for Partnerships currently holding the chair of the Strategy group, and Assistant Director for Communities, chair of the Inequalities sub group.
- 5.6 Covid-19 has had a detrimental effect on individuals and communities across our borough, but, it's impacts have been uneven and have often served to exacerbate existing inequalities, as outlined in Professor Marmot's Covid-19 report 'Build Back Fairer'. The impact of Covid-19 has made system-wide work to reduce inequalities and lessen their impact even more pressing.
- 5.7 This new funding from system partners in health provides us with an opportunity to continue and build on work to address these inequalities and deliver improved outcomes for our residents. The Council plays a key system leadership role based on our unique knowledge and understanding of the communities we serve.

Across the system in North East Essex, the Marmot policy objectives, first articulated in a the initial Marmot report on inequalities in health published by the Coalition government in 2010, are accepted as guiding principles. They are:

- Giving every child the best start in life

- Enabling all children, young people and adults to maximize their capabilities and have control over their lives
- Creating fair employment and good work for all
- Ensuring a healthy standard of living for all
- Creating and developing sustainable places and communities
- Strengthening the role and impact of ill-health prevention.

- 5.8 While some work is already underway across the system, capacity remains stretched, and therefore the funding will ensure that this advances for the benefit of all our residents. The funding provides us with a huge opportunity: the means to deliver workstreams that meet our shared objectives.
- 5.9 £464,000 of the funding is earmarked for the charity and voluntary sector, and £200,000 from ESNEFT is earmarked for the Neighbourhood Integrated Care Service (NICS) contract, a further £365,000 remains, which is to be spent by March 2023. Of this £365,000, £165,000 will directly support the Councils In-House 'Healthy Homes' programme, with a further £200,000 to support our wider work on tackling inequalities through funding existing and, crucially, additional resource.
- 5.10 This funding will therefore both support new voluntary sector and community led work, as well as augment existing work within CBC and system partners, thereby ensuring the capacity and skills to address these complex challenges.
- 5.11 The funding breaks down as follows:

Amount	Funder	Purpose	Spend deadline
£464k	CCG	Realising Ambitions Programme	All monies to be paid directly to voluntary & charitable organisations to continue the Asset Based Approach. Organisations identified by CCG, CBC, C360 & Tendring CVS
£200k	CCG	Inequalities programme	31 March 2023
£200k	ESNEFT	Inequalities programme – focus in NICS contract and community engagement	31 March 2023
£165k	CCG	Inequalities programme – Healthy Homes	31 March 2023

- 5.12 To provide an example of allocation of the Realising Ambitions CCG funding, the following range of recipients and programmes are included:
- Colchester and Tendring Youth Enquiry Service: Family Focus- Improving Mental Health To provide counselling and coaching to young people and their families in Colchester, in partnership with Find Your Spark. £30,000
  - Colchester Gateway Clubs: Advocacy and Support Project Towards staff costs for an Advocacy and Support Project for adults with both learning disabilities and mental health problems across Colchester and Tendring. £36,234
  - Families in Focus: Family Support to North East Essex families of CYP with any SEND Towards the provision of family support in NE Essex in addressing special educational needs and disabilities. £28,000
  - Headway Essex: Brain Injury Adapted Psychotherapy Counselling To provide Brain Injury Adapted Psychotherapy Counselling for over 2 years. £25,000

- Home-Start Colchester: Recipe4Health To run a project for disadvantaged children in Colchester teaching them how to be physically and mentally healthy. £10,000
- Ministry of Parenting CIC: FLASH Triple A To pilot a programme in Colchester that supports parents of children with additional needs who are self-harming. £15,367
- Open Road: Substance Misuse and Mental Health Support To provide mental health and substance misuse support to the LBGTQ+ community in Colchester and Tendring, in partnership with Outhouse East. £19,600
- Outhouse East To fund the salary of a part-time youth worker at a Colchester based charity, focused on supporting the local LBGTQ+ community. £30,000
- Re Engage: Colchester Social Gatherings To create a new support group and two additional friendship groups for over 75s living in Colchester. £17,800
- Royal Association for Deaf People: Talk More To set up support groups for deaf people suffering with their mental health in Colchester and Clacton. £15,000
- Tendring Mental Health Support: To provide support for people with acute mental health problems and their carers/family members, in partnership with Essex Carers Support. £52,500
- Wellies-On CIC To fund a full time mental health worker for an agriculture support charity that works with vulnerable children and adults in Colchester. £35,000
- Ark Family Resource Centre: Talking Helps To run therapeutic support sessions to improve mental health for young people and their mothers affected by domestic abuse in Harwich. £30,000
- Citizens Advice Bureau, Tendring: Believe and Achieve To provide employability and skills workshops for clients at the Mental Health Hub, in partnership with Signpost. £17,250

5.13 The funding will allow us to further focus on areas such as reducing inequalities in digital access, ensuring joined-up hospital discharges, ensuring a health living environment, and a more holistic approach to complex cases that span multiple departments and agencies. The funding will allow the Council and partners to deliver workstreams central to reducing pressure on both primary and secondary healthcare in the area, reducing pressure on internal CBC resources, increasing capacity in the voluntary sector and increasing services to vulnerable populations.

## **6. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications**

6.1 There are no further implications on equality, diversity and human rights beyond those listed in Section 5.

## **7. Strategic Plan References**

7.1 This funding directly contributes to objectives under the 'Creating safe, healthy and active communities' theme within the 2020 – 2023 strategic plan, specifically addressing these priorities:

- Build on community strengths and assets
- Tackle the causes of inequality and support our most vulnerable people

## **8. Consultation**

8.1 Not applicable

## **9. Publicity Considerations**

9.1 Rejecting the funding would likely have negative publicity implications.

**10. Financial implications**

10.1 The health system funding will have no additional financial implications in and of itself.

**11. Health, Wellbeing and Community Safety Implications**

11.1 The funding directly addresses health, wellbeing and community safety as outlined in Section 5.

**12. Health and Safety Implications**

12.1 No negative implications.

**13. Risk Management Implications**

13.1 Not applicable

**14. Environmental and Sustainability Implications**

14.1 Not applicable.