



Coventry City Council

UNCLASSIFIED

Chief Executive's Directorate

Council House
Earl Street
Coventry
CV1 5RR

Please contact Carol Dear
Direct line 024 7683 1100
Fax 024 7683 3680
carol.dear@coventry.gov.uk

Our reference: 20122998

Date: 08 August 2014

Dear

Thank you for requesting information about the Public Health Grant, received on 11th July 2014. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You have requested the following information:

- Q1. Expressed (a) as an amount and (b) as a percentage of your total public health grant, how much of your public health grant did you spend in 2013/14 in total as a combination of all the following:
- (i) transfers to your general cash limit;
 - (ii) employment of staff who had previously been employed by the council and paid for from general funds;
 - (iii) provision of services that had previously been paid for by the council from general funds;
 - (iv) maintenance of equipment or premises that had previously been maintained from general funds;
 - (v) any other way by which the grant is used to substitute for an expenditure of general fund.

The total cost of Public Health grant was £787,759 which equates to 4.42%.

Q2. For each service which you previously paid for out of general funds and which you now pay for out of public health grant (please do not include services where public health grant has only paid for an expansion):

- (i) what is the service?
- (ii) how much public health grant do you spend on it?
- (iii) under what statutory local government power did you previously pay for this service out of your general funds (a general description like "road safety powers" will suffice)?

- (iv) under what health service power do you now pay for it?
(v) briefly how did you conclude that the latter was more appropriate than the former?
(vi) are any charges made?

Service	£	Comment	Charges
One Body One Life – Physical Activity Service	£379, 178	It was agreed to fund this service from the Grant as previously it was funded from non-recurrent monies as a pilot. The pilot was successful and the service has now been mainstreamed. £80,000 of core council funding was previously provided and it was agreed that Public Health funding was more appropriate.	No
Teenage Pregnancy	£100,643	As this is a public health priority within the city, part of the Public Health Outcomes Framework and has significant synergies with the Sexual Health agenda it was agreed that this should be funded as part of the PH Grant.	No
Domestic Violence /Sexual Violence Support contract	£51,260	Previously part funded by the PCT and funding already within the Grant. Funding streams brought together to allow effective contract management and targeting of the service at those in greatest need.	No
Early Intervention Service – Young People	£68,085	Previously part funded by the PCT and funding already within the Grant. Funding streams brought together to allow effective contract management and targeting of the service at those in greatest need.	No
Sports Development Team	£241,848	This supports the Healthy Weight and Physical Activity agenda and was brought under the Grant to allow the Public Health Team to influence investment in physical activity in the areas of greatest need.	No
People Living with HIV support service	£50,000	Previously joint service between the PCT and LA. PCT funding included within the Grant. Part of other funding was non-recurrent and reduced. Service retendered and to ensure efficiencies in contract management and performance, contracts were combined and funding streamlined from PH grant.	No

These services were previously funded through the following local government powers:

- Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972
- Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000
- Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011

These services are now funded through Section 2B of the National Health Service Act 2006.

Q3. Considering the items which we excluded from the above calculation in 1(vi) to 1(x), please roughly estimate to the nearest £0.25m how much your Council's general fund benefited from such expenditure (a) recurrently (eg overheads absorbed without extra cost to the council) and (b) non-recurrently (eg redundancy costs avoided by moving a member of staff to a new job in public health). In each case please give a brief one paragraph narrative of how these benefits accrued. We think that "to the nearest £0.25m" should allow you to conduct a quick rough calculation rather than a detailed one. If not, please give us the best estimate you can without a detailed calculation and indicate roughly the degree of accuracy you think you have achieved.

Calculated to the nearest £0.25m is £0.

Q4. We are also interested to know how far local authorities have acquainted themselves with:

- a. the significance of public health within local authorities being part of the health service
- b. the implications for your use of health service money of the Secretary of State's duty to provide a comprehensive health service
- c. the extent to which your duty under section 2B of the National Health Service Act influences your general decision making

We would accept as an answer to this EITHER a short consensus statement by your DPH and Director of Finance as to how much thought and attention has been given to each of these issues OR a search for references to any of these items through all minutes, notes, e mails, papers and other documents relating to the public health transition or public health grant budgets or public health spending or planning with provision of an extract wherever this is found. The former less detailed statement would be easier for you to put together and more useful for us but, as it is an opinion rather than a fact, it is not an enforceable FOI request. Hence the second alternative which is a legitimate FOI request.

At the point when Coventry City Council took responsibility for public health, the Council's Cabinet were briefed on the new duties and the implications of these. In my view as acting Director of Public Health, the Council fully understands these responsibilities, including the duty under section 2B of the National Health Service Act to take whatever steps considered appropriate for improving the health of people in their area. This had included considering the health consequences and impacts of decision-making in areas which are not covered by the public health ring-fenced budget but which affect the socio-economic determinants of health. In my view, use of health service money for public health is consistent with both the Secretary of State's duty to provide a comprehensive health service and is also consistent with the principles outlined in the Public Health amendment to the NHS Constitution.

(Statement prepared by the Deputy Director of Public Health in the absence of the Director of Public Health)

Q5. Is your authority aware of the BMA's campaign for a substantial increase in public health grant, has it expressed any opinion about that campaign, and has the existence of the campaign, the need to support it and the need not to undermine it influenced any decisions you have made. As in Q4 please answer either by a short statement or by a search, with the former being preferred and also being simpler. In this case if you reply by providing a statement we would be happy for it to come from any one of the DPH, Director of Finance, Chief Executive, Leader or Executive Councillor.

Yes – individuals within the Authority are aware of the campaign. No corporate opinion has been expressed regarding the campaign.

(Statement prepared by the Deputy Director of Public Health in the absence of the Director of Public Health)

Please note, under the Re-Use of Public Sector Information 2005 Regulations you are free to use this information for your own use or for the purposes of news reporting.

However, any other type of re-use under the Regulations, for example; publication of the information or circulation to the public, will require permission of the copyright owner and may be subject to terms and conditions. For documents where the copyright does not belong to Coventry City Council you will need to apply separately to the copyright holder.

If you wish to apply to reuse the information you have requested or have any other issues relating to this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

You have a right to make representations about the outcome or handling of your request – in the first instance this must be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this letter, to the Council's Information Governance Team at:

Council House, Room 21a
Lower Ground Floor
Earl Street, Coventry.
CV1 5RR
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you have done this and are still dissatisfied, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Carol Dear
Corporate Performance Co-ordinator