

Birmingham City Council

Report to Cabinet

14th May 2019



Subject: Putting Prevention First: Investing in Communities

Report of: Director Adult Social Care

Relevant Cabinet Cllr Paulette Hamilton - Health and Social Care

Member: Cllr Tristan Chatfield - Finance and Resources

Relevant O &S Chair(s): Cllr Rob Pocock - Health and Social Care

Cllr Sir Albert Bore - Resources

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Are specific wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – All wards affected
If yes, name(s) of ward(s):		
Is this a key decision?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, add Forward Plan Reference: 006449/2019		
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :		

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide details of our approach to Prevention First: Investing in Communities. The objective of this approach is to invest the Council's financial resources in programmes of funding which support "Prevention First", which is for citizens to lead healthy, happy and independent lives in their own homes and communities. The approach is also consistent with the Council's Adult Social Care Vision and Strategy, aiming to prevent and delay the need for citizens to access statutory services provided by Adult Social

Care, as well as providing alternative and more cost-effective ways to engage with and support citizens, and their carers - at the earliest possible opportunity.

- 1.2 Within the scope of this investment is the procurement of Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) services for citizens with new and emerging life-changing health conditions and needs. This applies to sight loss, hearing loss, neurological conditions and physical disabilities. Also within scope are several programmes of grant awards to voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations for activity and services which are consistent with the Council's Adult Social Care Vision and Strategy. These will be specifically for the benefit of older people, people with disabilities and/or mental health conditions. The procurement and grants approaches are covered in different sections of the report.
- 1.3 The report completes a series of new programmes and investment which were initiated from Cabinet approval of "Putting Prevention First: Supporting the implementation of the vision for adult social care and health" in November 2017. That report highlighted the need to invest in three key areas of prevention activity for vulnerable adults in the City:
 - 1.3.1 Development of community assets via Neighbourhood Network Schemes – approved at Cabinet in November 2017 and now implemented across the city.
 - 1.3.2 A continued investment in communities via the re-design of existing third sector grants funding to deliver the priorities for adult social care and health – which is the subject matter of this report.
 - 1.3.3 Development of a prevention focused housing and wellbeing support pathway for vulnerable adults whose health and wellbeing is at risk due to their unstable, precarious housing circumstance – which was presented to and approved at Cabinet in April 2019 (Putting Prevention First: Commissioning and Procurement Strategies for Vulnerable Adults and Wellbeing Support).
- 1.4 The new investment replaces the current Adult Social Care "Third Sector Grants Programme", which comes to an end on 30th September 2019 - as per approval given by Cabinet in November 2017. It recognises and supports the continued support of valuable services and activity which align with Prevention First and the Adult Social Care Vision and Strategy. It also recognises the emergence of new and emerging evidence based outside of the scope of the current programme such as Three Conversations social work practice.
- 1.5 Grants will be awarded to funding applications received by the Council, which align to four thematic programmes within the Prevention First: Investing in Communities approach. These are: "Community Opportunities"; "Community Inclusion"; "Prevention and Early Intervention"; "New and Emerging". The programmes are consistent with and connect to cross-cutting priorities within the

Council, investment and support of the city's voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors, as well as emerging social prescribing practices.

- 1.6 These new programmes and the approach as a whole will be part of a first phase of new support and investment in the city's voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors, which will inform subsequent "whole Council" approaches to funding the sectors. Where possible and appropriate officers from different parts of the Council will be engaged in the evaluation and award processes for contracts and grants included in the scope of this report, in order to bring additional expertise and knowledge, as well as to join up decision making and planning.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet:
- 2.2 Notes the proposed and ongoing investment the Council is making in prevention and communities, which is consistent with the Council's agreed approach to "Prevention First" and it's Adult Social Care Vision and Strategy;
- 2.3 Approves the spending of up to £6.7million over the next three years in services and activities, which are within the scope of the programmes and programmes set out in this report;
- 2.4 Approves the procurement strategy for Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) Services, as set out in **Appendix 4** and Section 9 of the report;
- 2.5 Approves the delegation of the approval of the contract awards and future contract extensions, of up to one year, for Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) Services to the Director of Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Finance and Governance and the City Solicitor (or their nominees);
- 2.6 Notes the proposed process for awarding grants to voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations;
- 2.7 Approves the delegation of the approval of all grants to voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations, which are awarded through the "Community Opportunities", "Community Inclusion", "Prevention and Early Intervention", as well as "New and Emerging" programmes set out in this report, to the Director of Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Finance and Governance and the City Solicitor (or their nominees);
- 2.8 Authorises the City Solicitor(or their delegate) to negotiate and agree all legal documents to give effect to the above recommendations

3 Background

- 3.1 Older people are living longer, whilst funding for social care and health services is failing to keep up with demand. This is the summary position of the financial situation facing the social care and health system, which is leading to a point of crisis. In addition to older people living longer, this isn't being matched by the

number of healthy years they are living. This creates two demand issues, firstly in the overall volume of people needing support increasing, but also the number of people with complex needs also increasing. This isn't a position which can be continued and change is needed.

- 3.2 To respond to these increasing pressures on social care, Birmingham City Council has committed to a "Prevention First" vision of Birmingham where "citizens lead healthy, happy, independent lives within their own homes and communities". This vision underpins a new approach to commissioning prevention based services and activities in the Adult Social Care Directorate, focused on four domains (as per **Appendix 1**):
- 3.3 Citizens: Increased social participation; Healthier lifestyles; Maximised income; Living in housing which supports independence; Carers feel more supported; Better experience of the social care system
 - 3.3.1 Communities: Access to a relevant and diverse community offer; Access to more opportunities to participate in neighbourhoods
 - 3.3.2 System behaviours and culture: Better internal partnership working across Council and NHS; Better cross-sector partnership working between the statutory, voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors; Embedding of a culture which focuses on and supports the strengths, assets and positive outcomes for citizens
 - 3.3.3 Social Care & Health System: Reduced demand on statutory services; Financial savings; Additional investment in the social care and health system; Happier, more productive workforce
- 3.4 In November 2017 Cabinet approved new investment in prevention services, activities and community assets as part of the report "Putting Prevention First: Supporting the implementation of the vision for adult social care and health". This included funding to set-up Neighbourhood Network Schemes across Birmingham's Constituencies, the Three Conversations social work model and closer partnership working with Birmingham Voluntary Services Council (BVSC), for instance. It also included an extension to investment in the Adult Social Care Third Sector Grants Programme until 30th September 2019. This report is the next iteration and progression of that investment in prevention and communities, building on and expanding on Neighbourhood Network Schemes, the Three Conversations and community social work, for instance.
- 3.5 In April 2019 Cabinet also approved the report "Putting Prevention First: Commissioning and Procurement Strategies for Vulnerable Adults and Wellbeing Support". That report focuses primarily on prevention and early intervention in terms of housing and homelessness, acknowledging the importance of citizens living in safe, secure and supported accommodation (where needed). Whilst the contents of this report references funding for "housing and hoarding" this is focused on ensuring that citizens (particularly older people) can continue living independently in their own homes for as long as possible, providing a different

but complementary activity to the April 2019 report. Likewise both reports support the investment in Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) services both complementing each other as part of a whole system approach. The focus of the IAG in this report is targeted towards specific life-changing conditions to enable independence, whilst the focus of the April 2019 report is on universal prevention to promote well-being and prevent homelessness across all of Birmingham's citizens.

- 3.6 The Council's commitment to prevention and communities is also becoming a joint commitment with the NHS through the Birmingham & Solihull Sustainability and Transformation Partnership, particularly the Ageing Well Strategy and Prevention work stream. The scope of the programme outlined in this report supports that work and complements NHS commissioning activity concerned with social prescribing and mental health, for instance. It is expected for instance that activities and services which are supported through this renewed investment will be included in and referenced in community social prescribing activity, via the Constituency Neighbourhood Network Schemes.
- 3.7 At a national level there is also change happening which recognises the importance of social isolation, loneliness and prevention, as well as collaboration and integration between social care and health. This includes the government's launch of its loneliness strategy, "A connected society: a strategy for tackling loneliness" and the launch of a new health and social care vision, "Prevention is better than cure: government's vision to help you live well for longer". Both documents outline that a collective effort which extends beyond national and local government is needed, recognising the important role of individuals, families, communities, the voluntary and community sectors in being able to make national and local progress on these issues. It also includes the recently launched NHS Long-Term Plan, which sets out a strategic approach and priorities for the next ten years, including "a focus on prevention".
- 3.8 Prevention and early intervention can be considered in terms of three tiers, which this new programme of activity seeks to invest in. These are:
 - 3.8.1 Universal prevention – creating and enabling the conditions, opportunities and activity in communities, which can prevent or delay the need for citizens to require statutory care and support services;
 - 3.8.2 Early intervention and crisis – providing the earliest possible engagement with citizens to prevent and delay a deterioration in their circumstances which might create a long-term dependency on statutory care and support services;
 - 3.8.3 Alternative interventions – providing alternative services and activities, outside of statutory requirements, which can improve the quality of life and a more cost effective solution for citizens than statutory services.
- 3.9 There is another lens through which prevention can be viewed, which is in reducing avoidable demand on public services. In providing information, advice

and guidance services to citizens (and their carers), with new and emerging conditions (which may at some point in the future require statutory care and support services), this can help citizens navigate through adult social care and health and benefit processes and systems as quickly and easily as possible. This reduces unnecessary costs on resources and provides quicker, better outcomes for citizens.

3.10 The current Adult Social Care Third Sector Grants Programme has been supported by the Council for several years and funds a range of diverse activity delivered by voluntary and community sector organisations. The annual value of these grants is £2.748 million per annum. This includes services and activities, which aligns to the following themes:

- 3.10.1 Information, advice and guidance for citizens and their carers – particularly for specific conditions and communities of interest;
- 3.10.2 Day opportunities/Community opportunities for older people and people with disabilities;
- 3.10.3 Domestic abuse and violence against women;
- 3.10.4 Support for people with mental health conditions or needs.

3.11 Since the approval of extensions of those grants by Cabinet in November 2017, there has been extensive work delivered with the providers included in the Third Sector Grants Programme. This has included supporting all providers – very small to the very large – to align to a new “Prevention First” outcomes framework (**Appendix 1**), including supporting them to develop evidence and reporting which aligns to the four outcome areas of “Prevention First”. It has also included one to one and group supported provided by Adult Social Care Commissioning staff and BVSC, allocated to working to each provider. This approach has been re-enforced through the introduction of a RAG rating approach to help organisations with their development and to assist the Council and BVSC to prioritise providers requiring additional support.

3.12 The latest quarterly RAG rating of providers showed that nearly half have been assessed as “green”, which equates to a “strong case and support for current or future partnership” where there are clear shared prevention aims and outcomes, evidence of a high value and impact on those shared outcomes, as well as a clear relevance to the Council’s Adult Social Care Vision and Strategy. It is expected that this proportion will continue to rise over the coming months. It also shows that there would be a clear and negative impact to the Council, citizens and communities from any disinvestment by the Council in many of the services and activities supported through the Third Sector Grants programme. This includes an increased demand on statutory services and associated costs. In addition to identifying what it would be important for the Council to retain an investment in, there has also been significant scoping activity to identify what new areas the Council should invest in. This includes local and national research, analysing the trends coming through the new community social work

model, as well as engagement with a wide range of stakeholders. From this a number of themes have been identified as requiring support through this new programme of investment, which are set out in **Appendix 3**.

- 3.13 Through this new programme of investment there are aspirations to bring significant innovation and new approaches to delivering adult social care and health outcomes. Within the prevention and early intervention agenda there are now well understood benefits to older adults, people with disabilities and mental health conditions from participating in a whole range of activity not currently funded through Adult Social Care. This includes arts and cultural activity, sports and physical activity, digital inclusion for instance. Additionally there is a much greater understanding of the role bereavement can play in social isolation, loneliness and behaviour disorders such as hoarding, as well as the benefits of employment, volunteering and community facilities in fostering inclusion of older people and people with disabilities, for instance. Likewise, through emerging Three Conversations practice we are now appreciating the importance and demand for services and activities, which can specifically address hoarding for instance.
- 3.14 At the same time there is an appreciation that the Council does not have the solutions or detailed knowledge and understanding of the best ways of delivering these new areas of activity, or their feasibility in particular circumstances. However, there is extensive interest and expertise in Birmingham, the region and nationally which the Council can invite proposals from. The proposed grants approach can create new partnerships, share and develop expertise in Adult Social Care, as well as provide assurance that the Council is investing in the best possible ideas, activities and services which can benefit citizens and communities. The programme has the potential to change the way adult social care is perceived both within the social care and health system, as well as outside of it. This is particularly in placing older people, people with disabilities and mental health conditions as part of the considerations and agenda for a broader range of stakeholders and funders, as well as more firmly in their own neighbourhoods and communities. These aspirations are also consistent with the emerging Adult Social Care Transitions and Day Opportunities Strategies, and will add to their potential reach and ambition over the next couple of years.
- 3.15 Due to the breadth and depth of the variety of services, activities, groups and organisations supported through the Third Sector Grants programme and within the areas of new investment which are recommended it is neither feasible nor appropriate to solely take a procurement approach to a new programme of investment. It is possible to clearly understand and specify some service areas such as Hospital Discharge Support and IAG, where a procurement approach would be the most appropriate. However there are many others where there isn't a clear or fixed model for delivery and the size of organisations and financial values concerned does not support a procurement approach, which smaller voluntary and community sector organisations can easily engage with. Additionally, the services and activity delivered through this programme will be

providing indirect benefit to the Council, aligning with its objectives rather than delivering services on its behalf. In these circumstances a grant based investment approach works best.

- 3.16 Though a grants approach will be used, value for money for citizens and the Council will be a key consideration. As part of the application and assessment process, proposing organisations will need to be able to evidence that their proposals are at least cost-neutral. It means that for every £1 invested by the Council, there is an evidenced case that at least £1 of value will be generated. This can be either evidencing a reduced demand and costs on adult social care, or generating additional investment from outside of the Council. These will be important considerations in grants awarded by the Council.
- 3.17 Lastly, the Commonwealth Games will be delivered in Birmingham and the West Midlands in 2022, which creates a whole range of opportunities for the city's citizens and communities. This will need to extend to older people, people with disabilities and people with mental health conditions, who are at the heart of this investment in prevention and communities. To align this investment with the Commonwealth Games and to create an opportunity for organisations, groups, citizens and communities to make the most of the excitement and interest which the Games will create, elements of this new investment programme will run for only two years, until 2021 (excluding Information, Advice and Guidance Services which will be for three years, with the option to extend for one year). This is with the intention of creating a subsequent programme of investment in 2021 which can provide opportunities for older people, people with disabilities and mental health conditions to engage with and participate in the Commonwealth Games, through activities, events, volunteering and employment

4 Consultation

4.1 Internal

- 4.1.1 The contents of this report and the scope and details of the Prevention and Communities Programme have been developed in consultation and engagement with the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, as well as members of the Adult Social Care Community Assets & Third Sector Project Board. This board is chaired by the Assistant Director of Commissioning and Assistant Director of Social Care, as well as attended by Heads of Service from Social Care and Commissioning. Officers from Corporate Finance have also been engaged in the development of the scope of the programme.
- 4.1.2 The scope of the programmes and specification for the Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) services have been developed in consultation with social workers from Constituency and specialist teams, as well as officers working within the intelligence function. This has been to identify key issues and trends emerging through demand based data and social work practice (particularly the Three Conversations model) which need to be included within the scope of the new programmes. It has also been developed with input and engagement from

officers in the Neighbourhoods Directorate leading on the Council's corporate approach to information, advice and guidance.

4.1.3 The Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities has also been consulted in the development of this report and the scope of the proposed investment.

4.1.4 Officers from Finance, Legal & Governance Department and Corporate Procurement have been involved in the preparation of this report.

4.2 External

4.2.1 There has been ongoing engagement, dialogue and consultation with the forty voluntary sector providers which are currently funded through the Third Sector Grants Programme. This is on a one to one and group basis. That engagement and dialogue has extended to BVSC, which has also been able to contribute to the scope and details of the proposed programme of investment. There has been extensive support from these stakeholders for this proposal.

4.2.2 Citizens have also been engaged and consulted, via the People for Public Services Forum (in February 2019) and Adult Social Care Citizens Panel (in March 2019) particularly concerning the commissioning of Information, Advice and Guidance Services. The feedback from citizens through that forum and panel has been positive in terms of the intentions and details of this proposed programme. We will continue to develop citizen engagement, through inviting participation in the assessment and award processes for the subsequent contract and grant awards.

4.2.3 Over the last eighteen months there has also been ongoing and extensive engagement with a range of external stakeholders to inform the scope and basis for this new programme, particularly through the "Prevention & Community Assets Group" supported by Adult Social Care. As well as internal stakeholders from the Cultural Development Service, Public Health and Neighbourhoods, this group includes statutory agencies such as West Midlands Police, NHS Birmingham & Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust, Birmingham Social Housing Partnership and West Midlands Fire Service. It also includes voluntary sector agencies such as Sport Birmingham, The Active Wellbeing Society. This group and its stakeholders have been influential in identifying the range and breadth of opportunities and creativity which Adult Social Care might apply in its new approach.

4.2.4 Through the grants programmes there will also be an expectation for organisations and groups submitting proposals to have engaged and consulted with social workers and citizens as a qualifying criteria in the evaluation and assessment process. This will provide assurance that proposals are supported by relevant stakeholders and end beneficiaries, as well as co-produced and co-designed by these groups.

5 Risk Management

- 5.1 There are several risks created from the investment in the “Prevention and Communities Programme”, which relate to both the new investment in activities and services, as well as disinvestment in those supported by the Third Sector Grants Programme.
- 5.2 In terms of managing risks from new investment, this can be split between procurement and grants. The management of procurement and contract risks are set out in **Appendix 4**. The management of risks associated with grant awards are set out in section 8 of this report and **Appendix 3**.
- 5.3 The additional risks, outside of procurement and grant award processes themselves, are ensuring that the Council receives the best possible tenders and proposals to generate the maximum possible return on its investment. This is dependent on effective market engagement and capacity across a number of different thematic areas. To mitigate this there is already extensive engagement with networks and potential providers, particularly those which are already funded through the Third Sector Grants Programme. Beyond that there is an effective collaboration in place with BVSC and BSAB, as well as collaborations developing with arts and cultural networks, for instance. These suggest that what is being proposed is both possible and can be supported through those networks.
- 5.4 The risks associated with disinvestment from existing services and activities are to the Council, citizens and communities. These are being managed through the existing RAG rating and support to providers through the Third Sector Grants programme. Organisations and groups being assessed as “red” are the least likely to be successful in the awards process (contracts and grants) through the new programme of investment. They are being prioritised for support from Council Officers and BVSC to help them improve their offer, evidence of value and impact, as well as to identify alternative funding options.
- 5.5 A consequence of not renewing any investment in these organisations is a cessation of activity and services, which might increase demand and costs on statutory services, as well as withdraw support, services and activities from citizens and communities. However, the issues some of these groups and organisations are having in evidencing their current value and impact to the Council, citizens and communities indicates that these negative impacts may be fairly marginal and offset by the prospect of new investment in prevention and early intervention activity and services, as a whole.

6 Compliance Issues:

6.2 How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council’s priorities, plans and strategies?

- 6.2.1 This new programme of activity is consistent with the Adult Social Care Vision and Strategy. It is also consistent with the Birmingham & Solihull

Sustainability and Transformation Partnership, which is supported by the Council

6.2.2 In terms of the Council's priorities and outcomes, it strongly aligns with and supports the following:

6.2 Birmingham is an entrepreneurial city to learn, invest and work in: We will create opportunities for local people to develop skills and make the best of economic growth – in terms of this report it applies to people with disabilities, mental health conditions and older people.

6.2.1 Birmingham is a fulfilling city to age well in: We will work with our citizens to prevent social isolation, loneliness, and develop active citizenship/ We will improve care for older people/Citizens and communities will have choice and control over their care and improved resilience and independence – this is at the heart of the purpose and outcomes for the new programme.

6.2.2 Birmingham is a great city to live in: We will work with partners to tackle rough sleeping and homelessness – prevention and early intervention activities and services for and with people with disabilities and mental health conditions will prevent the circumstances which lead to rough sleeping and homelessness.

6.2.3 Birmingham is a great city to live in: We will work with our partners to build a fair and inclusive city for all – this includes ensuring that all citizens and communities, such as people with disabilities, mental health conditions and older people feel included within their neighbourhood and community.

6.2.4 Birmingham residents gain the maximum benefit from hosting the Commonwealth Games: We will encourage citizens of all abilities and ages to engage in physical activity and improve their health and wellbeing – this new programme of investment will invest in opportunities which enable citizens and communities to be as physically active as possible.

7 Legal Implications

7.1 Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2000 gives the Secretary of State power to award grants to local authorities for expenditure incurred by them in the provision of welfare services determined by the Secretary of State.

7.2 Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, a local authority has the power to take action which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions and therefore has a general power to enter into contracts for the discharge of any of its functions.

7.3 The Care Act 2014 places several duties on Local Authorities, which this programme of investment assists the Council to fulfil. These include:

- 7.3.1 Section 1 - Promoting Wellbeing;
- 7.3.2 Section 2 - Preventing, reducing or delaying needs;
- 7.3.3 Section 4 – Information and guidance;

8 Financial Implications

- 8.1 Up to £6.7million is required to invest in the activities and services set out within the scope of the Prevention and Communities Programme. This will be primarily funded from the Adult Social Care core budget from 1st October 2019 to 30th September 2022 as currently in budget plans of £2.748m per annum base funding. The same core budget has been used to fund the Third Sector Grants Programme, which will be coming to an end on 30th September 2019. The financial costs per annum are set out in **Appendix 2**, which also includes an explanation of the small amount of contingent funding involved. The contingent funding is subject to the receipt of grant proposals and the appropriate match of these proposals to the other sources of funding that may be available.
- 8.2 The release of the remainder of the increased budget allocation to the activities in the report will be dependent on a) the quantity and quality of proposals received by the Council and b) the availability and match to those grants of other funding e.g. grants that match with winter pressures or partnership funding. These will be in addition to the core budget of £2.748million per annum. This provides flexibility in grant awards, as well as still ensuring sufficient investment in the key additional Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) services being developed as part of prevention.
- 8.3 Grant awards will remain strictly within available funds. One source of such funds is the “Winter pressures grant” (2019/20) with the plans for its use currently being drawn up now for November 2019 to March 2020 by Adult Social Care Commissioning. Its use will be subject to further reports and approvals.
- 8.4 Until grants are awarded the match of other funds cannot be pre-determined to grant conditions. Ensuring a strong voluntary and community sector partner base is important as part of the wider support system in Birmingham to our most vulnerable. Using grants is an opportunity to pull in extra voluntary and community sector funding and support so making council resources go that much further.
- 8.5 The current investment in the Third Sector Grants Programme is £2.748million per annum, which comes to an end on 30th September 2019. The new investment, whilst profiled differently and used for different purposes is the equivalent of up to £3.05million per annum. The potential increase (see **Appendix 2**) reflects an increase to some areas of provision which have been identified as high value and relevance to the Council’s objectives, or where increased resource is needed to match demand and need. It will consist of the equivalent of up to £2.45million per annum in grant awards until their completion in 2021/22 and the equivalent of £0.6million per annum in contracted services

until their expiry in 2022/23. The purpose of this programme of investment is essentially to prevent and delay statutory costs to Adult Social Care, with all services and activities funded through it – via contracts or grants – anticipated as being at least cost neutral, i.e. they generate a saving to Adult Social Care, which is at least equal to the financial investment made in them. Through existing reviews and evaluation of services already funded through the Third Sector Grants programme it is expected that there will be a cumulative net reduction on financial costs to Adult Social Care as a result of reductions in the demand for statutory services.

- 8.6 It is anticipated that up to £4.9million of the proposed investment will be made through grant awards to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector organisations and groups whose proposed activities and services align with the Council's Prevention First outcomes and objectives. This will apply to the period 1st October 2019 to 30th September 2021 and reflects a maximum budget for grant awards, which will be dependent on the quantity and quality of proposals received by the Council. As described by the National Audit Office a grant is an extremely useful way for a public body to fund a third sector organisation (VCSE) for activity that is in line with one or more of the public body's objectives.
- 8.7 All grants awarded by the Council through this programme and its programmes will be consistent with the Council's Conditions of Grant Aid. These conditions set out the minimum requirements for all grant recipients to comply with. Additionally grants will be awarded through an application and assessment process, which will provide appropriate assurance, scrutiny and evaluation of proposals submitted to the Council for funding. This process is set out in **Appendix 3** and will include citizens, partners and Council officers (Commissioning, Social Care, Public Health, Cultural Development, Legal, Finance and Procurement) as appropriate.
- 8.8 The total value of grants awarded through these processes and the programme as a whole will not exceed the allocated total funding of £4.9million and may be less depending on quality and the additional contingent funding. Where programmes are oversubscribed partial awards might subsequently be made by the Council to applicants. Where programmes are undersubscribed, funding might be re-allocated to other programmes.

9 Procurement Implications

- 9.1 A procurement approach will be used to award contracts for the delivery of Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) Services, the detail of which are outlined in **Appendix 4**. This will be conducted via the Open Procedure, with contracts commencing for three years from 1st October 2019, with the option to extend for a further year subject to satisfactory performance and funding availability. The combined value of the four contracts will be £600,000 per annum or £1.8million in total over the three years. If they are extended for a further year, this will be at combined value of £2.4million.

- 9.2 The contract timeline of three years and the option to extend the contracts for an additional year is based on emerging and future procurement options. Whilst there is an established and effective model for delivering the specified IAG services, there is also healthy competition in the market. Three year contracts provide sufficient stability and certainty to potential suppliers, but also a realistic timescale through which delivery models and practices might change – at which reengaging with the market might provide better outcomes. The option of a one year extension reflects the potential and emerging opportunities to jointly commission one or more of these services with NHS Birmingham & Solihull CCG. These issues are of shared interest, but whilst collaboration and partnership working with the CCG is improving and increasing there is no certainty about when such a joint commissioning approach might be viable.
- 9.3 The Council currently has no contracted services for the delivery of IAG Services, which are specifically concerned with prevention, early and intervention, new and emerging care and health related conditions. However, there are a number of relevant services which are currently grant funded through the Adult Social Care Third Sector Grants programme, which come to an end on 30th September 2019. The procurement of IAG services through this proposal, will replace relevant IAG related services and activities which are grant funded through that programme.
- 9.4 There will be four different contract awards, each covering a specific health related condition. Due to the specialised nature of each condition it is not possible to award a single contract for all the IAG services referenced in the report. This is because different information, advice, support, peer support and services exists for each condition and associated community. The four conditions are: Sight loss; Hearing loss; Neurological conditions; Physical disabilities.
- 9.5 Monitoring and evaluation of the grants which are being used for IAG services have shown their value and benefit to the Council and citizens. This process has also identified the key factors in delivering effective and successful services, which have been used to develop the specification for this procurement, which is in **Appendix 4**.
- 9.6 Due to the value of the contracts and specialised nature of the services, options such as delivering the services in-house and a creating a framework agreement with providers and public sector partners are not the preferred route. The recommended option is restrict the contracts to Birmingham City Council requirements only, but we will be working with other organisations to maximise the wider benefits they might offer to other organisations such as the NHS. This will ensure that contracts can be awarded for the 1st October 2019 start date, as well as ensure maximum flexibility and relevance to adult social care demands and requirements.
- 9.7 Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility (BBC4SR) will be applied within the threshold of the Charter requirements and contract value.

- 9.8 The contracts are proposed for three years, with the option to extend for a further one year, subject to satisfactory performance and funding availability, to reflect what is known about the market and needs. Firstly, there is already an established and well understood model of good practice for delivering these services, which has been taken from learning and evaluation of similar services delivered through the Third Sector Grants programme. However, due to the level of competition in the market and the possibility of future joint commissioning opportunities with the NHS for these services, a more long-term contract is not considered suitable at this stage.

10 Human Resources Implications (if required)

- 10.1 There are no additional human resources implications. The programme and its programmes will be managed and coordinated within existing and planned Adult Social Care staff resources.

11 Public Sector Equality Duty

- 11.1 The initial assessment of the programme has been completed. The conclusion from the assessment is that the programme will have a positive impact on disadvantaged groups in Birmingham, which are specifically older people, people with disabilities and people with mental health conditions. One of the key aims of the programme is to improve and increase the inclusion of these groups in Birmingham's neighbourhoods and communities. There will also be subsequent benefits to all communities which will also be able to access the services and activities which are funded.

12 List of Appendices accompanying this Report (if any):

1. Prevention First Outcomes Framework
2. Financial implications and investment per annum
3. Grant strategy, programmes and timeline
4. Information Advice & Guidance Services scope and specification
5. EQUA 277

13 Background Documents

Birmingham City Council Plan: 2018 -2022

Vision and Strategy for the Modernisation of Adult Social Care Cabinet Report
October 2017

Putting Prevention First: Delivering the Vision for Adult Social Care and Health
Cabinet Report November 2017

Putting Prevention First: Commissioning and Procurement Strategies for
Vulnerable Adults and Wellbeing Support