

# Covid-19 Summary - As At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

## Finance Summary

- The cost of the Covid-19 pandemic to the County Council has been monitored separately from the portfolio budgets agreed by County Council in February 2021. Some unspent grants from 2020/21 have been carried forward and are available to be utilised in accordance with grant conditions. It is expected that all the costs of the pandemic which are incurred in 2021/22 will be funded from government grants or from other income received from partners.
- Table 1** details a projected forecast of Covid-19 expenditure and income for 2021/22 by portfolio. The presentation of this table has been updated to separate grants which are administered by the County Council to care providers on behalf of the Government which had previously been recorded within the Adults and Health Portfolio. All ringfenced grants and the Local Council Tax Support funding are assumed fully spent or committed in this presentation.

**Table 1 – Covid-19 Summary**

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Projected Expenditure</b>
Adults & Health	£12.533m
Children & Young People	£0.146m
Learning & Skills	£1.915m
Community Support, Fire & Rescue	£11.666m
Environment & Climate Change	£0.345m
Finance & Property	£0.842m
Highways & Transport	£1.414m
Public Health & Wellbeing	£16.153m
Support Services & Economic Development	£0.331m
Non-Portfolio	£11.407m
<b>Total Portfolio Projected Expenditure</b>	<b>£56.752m</b>

Adults & Health – Grants administered by the County Council on behalf of Government	£24.709m
<b>Total Projected Expenditure</b>	<b>£81.461m</b>

<b>Income Allocations (including grants carried forward from 2020/21)</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
<i>Grant</i> - Covid-19 central government non-ringfenced grant (including Local Council Tax Support and Omicron Support Grant)	(£30.255m)
<i>Grant</i> –Covid-19 specific grants including (Contained Outbreak Management Fund, Local Support Grant and others)	(£36.810m)
<i>Grant</i> –Covid-19 specific grants administered in accordance to Government requirements (including Infection Control and others)	(£24.709m)
<i>Other Income</i> – Covid-19 income estimated contribution from the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).	(£1.264m)
<b>Total Projected Income</b>	<b>(£93.038m)</b>

Committed 2022/23 Capital Contribution	<b>£1.723m</b>
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<b>Projected Remaining Grant as at 2021/22</b>	<b>(£9.854m)</b>
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<b>Remaining Grant - Required for 2022/23</b>	<b>£9.854m</b>
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3. Although it is currently projected that there will be £9.9m of non-ringfenced grant unallocated in 2021/22; it is clear that the impact of the pandemic will continue into the 2022/23 financial year which will cause significant financial risk to the County Council. On-going supply and demand pressures within Adult Social Care are of particular concern as the pandemic continues to affect the social care market provision and rising cost of care.
4. To date, the County Council has been pragmatic in its approach to the use of the Covid-19 ringfenced grant funding available, with the Executive Leadership team playing a key governance role in determining how to distribute funding where there is local discretion over its use, which has enabled the projected remaining £9.9m non-ringfenced grant to be safeguarded to assist the challenges ahead.
5. A review of the current Covid-19 spend has enabled a forward assessment of the areas which may require the Covid-19 grant next year, including:
  - The continuation of the Community Hub which helps to support the most vulnerable residents in West Sussex.
  - Increase in the cost of care provision and the potential need for an extension of support to providers to help secure stability in the adult social care market.
  - Continuation of the additional staffing in Adult Services to meet the needs of customers during the pandemic.
  - Other costs associated with the pandemic including personal protective equipment (PPE) and additional cleaning of public buildings.
6. The Local Council Tax Support fund received in-year is assumed fully committed as this funding is being used to support council tax hardship schemes across the West Sussex district and boroughs.

## **Covid-19 Key Decisions During 2021/22**

**Table 2** lists the Key Decisions which have been taken during the year that have impacted Covid-19 expenditure.

**Table 2: Key Decisions Which Have Impacted in Year Expenditure**

<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Key Decision Reference</b>
Adult Social Care Infection Control and Testing Fund	Allocation of Infection prevention and control and rapid testing funding	Specific grant allocation	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	OKD75 (20/21)

Key Decision	Description	Funding Source	Date	Key Decision Reference
Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF)	Proposal to utilise £6.018m of the total grant funding, of which £2.933m is to support activities by the West Sussex Districts and Boroughs, £0.665m is for homelessness prevention (Adults) and £2.419m is to support services for children and young people	Specific grant allocation	6 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	OKD78 (20/21)
Emergency Central Government Funding Allocation	Allocation of £0.542m to complete the demolition of the former Chichester High School Year 7 Building project following delays and loss of funding due to the pandemic.	County Council funding	08 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	FP02 (21/22)
Winter Grant Scheme - Household Support Fund	Distribute funding from the Household Support Fund, working with partners	Specific grant allocation	07 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	CFFR02 (21/22)

### **Covid-19 Grant Funding Allocations 2021/22**

A listing of available Covid-19 grant funding is shown in **Table 3**. This details the grants brought forward from 2020/21, confirmed new grants and estimates of new funding expected to be received.

**Table 3 - Covid-19 Grant Funding Allocated to West Sussex County Council - as at 31st December 2021**

Description	Brought Forward	2021/22	TOTAL	Spending Plan
	2020/21		2021/22	
	£m	£m	£m	
<b>Non-Ringfenced Grant:</b>				
Covid-19 Central Government Non-Ringfenced Grant	7.0	15.8	22.7	
Fire Contingency Fund	0.1	-	0.1	To meet additional pressures arising from the pandemic and help continue to deliver frontline services.
Local Council Tax Support	-	6.6	6.6	
Omicron Support Grant	-	0.8	0.8	
<b>Total Non-Ringfenced Grant</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>30.2</b>	
<b>Specific/ Dedicated Grants (WSSC Expenditure):</b>				
Contain Outbreak Management Fund	19.3	4.0	23.3	To help reduce the spread of coronavirus and support local public health.
Test and Trace	1.3	-	1.3	Led by WS Public Health, implementation of tailored outbreak control plans to reduce and manage the virus across the county.
Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund (Adult Social Care)	-	1.0	1.0	To support local authorities to address adult social care workforce capacity pressures in their geographical area through recruitment and retention activity this winter.
Additional Dedicated Home to School and College Transport	-	0.7	0.7	To provide sufficient transport capacity so children and young people can attend school and college safely and on time.
Winter Support Grant	-	0.8	0.8	To provide support to children and households who are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, poverty, where they are impacted by the ongoing public health emergency, and where alternative sources of assistance may be unavailable.
Local Support Grant	-	2.3	2.3	
Practical Support Framework	-	1.5	1.5	To support those in need with the cost of food, energy, water bills and other essentials.
Household Support Fund	-	4.9	4.9	To support vulnerable households to meet daily needs such as food, clothing and utilities.
Travel Demand Management Grant	0.1	-	0.1	Public transport support funding.
Bus Support Services Grant	-	0.3	0.3	To support bus operators to continue running services during lockdown (supported transport routes).
Emergency Active Travel Fund	0.5	-	0.5	Funding to Protect and Increase Travel Services. Phase 2 (Revenue - indicative allocation) installation of temporary cycle lane provision.
Wellbeing for Education Grant	-	0.1	0.1	Additional funding for local authorities to support pupils' and students' wellbeing and psychosocial recovery as they return to full-time education.
<b>Total Specific/ Dedicated Grant:</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>36.8</b>	
<b>Specific/ Dedicated Grants Administered in Accordance to Government Requirements:</b>				
Infection Control/ Rapid Testing	-	11.7	11.7	To support adult social care providers to reduce the rate of Covid-19 within and between care settings through infection prevention and control practices.
Rapid Testing	-	7.2	7.2	To support adult social care providers to reduce the rate of Covid-19 by providing rapid testing to staff and visitors.
Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund (Adult Social Care)	-	5.4	5.4	To support local authorities to address adult social care workforce capacity pressures in their geographical area through recruitment and retention activity this winter.
Care Staff Vaccination	-	0.4	0.4	
<b>Total Specific/ Dedicated Grants Administered:</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>24.7</b>	
<b>Overall Total Portfolio Grants</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>91.7</b>	
<b>Capital Ringfenced Grants:</b>				
Emergency Active Travel Fund - Phase 2	2.2	-	2.2	Capital Funding to protect and increase travel services.
<b>Total Capital Ringfenced Grants</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	
<b>Overall Total Grants</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>93.9</b>	