



Full Council

**Thursday, 22
February 2024**

**Matter for Information
and Decision**

**Report Title: 2024/25 Revenue Budget, Medium Term Financial Plan and
2024/25 – 2028/29 Capital Programmes**

Community Health & Wellbeing Service 2024/25 (Update)

Report Author(s): Teresa Neal (Strategic Director)

1. Background

- 1.1. At Full Council on the 12 December 2023, Members had agreed to reduce the funding for Community Health and Wellbeing by fifty percent. Since that meeting, we have been working with Blaby District Council (BDC) to consider how we can deliver the service within the reduced funding allocation as well as considering whether bringing the service back in house would offer any further cost savings. This service brings in external funding from public health.
- 1.2. Whilst considering what route we should take with the service we have at the same time been considering applications through a voluntary redundancy scheme. At the current time we have one officer that works on Community Health & Wellbeing, this person is employed by public health as an apprentice and is seconded to work in the borough two days a week. Management of the contract with BDC is the responsibility of the Community Safety & Wellbeing Manager.

2. Current Position

- 2.1. The voluntary redundancy exercise and the proactive approach we have taken regarding not automatically advertising vacancies that have arisen means that the pressure to consider compulsory redundancies has decreased, although still exists. In the last week we have become aware of a post that will become vacant which we can make a saving on which would cover the cost of the arrangement with BDC.
- 2.2. To deliver the service in house it could potentially cost us more than the new revised costs that BDC have provided to us, which is £48,500, as we would need at least two officers to be able to cover all the services being offered. There is no flexibility about what can and cannot be delivered as the external funding is dependent on delivery of all services.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. To continue the arrangement with BDC for 2024/25 providing 50% of the funding we paid for the service in 2023/24. This would mean that residents of the borough would be able to access the programmes that are funded through public health to support individuals' health and wellbeing, including those residents that are recovering from a health condition. Oadby & Wigston would be able to continue with the work that has commenced on developing our Community Health and Wellbeing Plan including identifying health inequalities across the borough and working with a range of partners to deliver prevention services and actions to tackle local health issues.