

**Cambridgeshire County Council Record of Decision**

**Decision taken by an officer of the Council**

<b>Title of decision</b>	Allocation of Infection Control and Rapid Testing Funding in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic
<b>Date decision taken</b>	30 April 2021
<b>Decision maker</b>	Chief Executive <i>(ordinarily it would be Adults Committee)</i>

**Details of decision taken**

Acknowledging the ongoing cost of adhering to infection control guidance, the Government recently announced another round of Infection Control and Rapid Testing Funding. Both funds have been issued on a one-off basis and the table below outlines the level of funding received by Cambridgeshire County Council:

Infection Control Funding	Rapid Testing Funding
£2,007,140	£1,355,490

The purpose of the funding is to support adult social care providers, including those with whom the local authority doesn't contract, to:

1. Reduce the rate of COVID-19 transmission within and between care settings through effective infection prevention control practices and increase uptake of staff vaccinations; and
2. Conduct additional rapid testing of staff and visitors in care homes, high risk supported living and extra care settings, to enable close contact visiting where possible.

Central Government has specified the fund be allocated in accordance guidance issued:

Fund	Mandatory	Discretionary
Infection Control Fund	70% to CQC Registered Care Homes and Community Providers	30% local authority discretion to support other measures for the care sector, including supporting other care settings (e.g. community and day support services) or to support resilience of providers experiencing an outbreak
Rapid Testing Fund	60% of the allocation to CQC Registered Care Homes on a per bed basis.	40% local authority discretion to support the rollout of lateral flow testing in extra care and supported living settings as well as other settings as identified by the Council.

Use of the funding by providers needs to comply with clear guidance outlined by central government. Compliance with the conditions set will be assured through the use of a grant agreement. All local authorities have been given a directive to passport the funding through to services quickly to support the sustainability of the sector, with a completion date of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 being stipulated.

Following consultation with local providers and care associations, a decision has been made to allocate the discretionary elements of the funds in the following ways:

Fund	Amount	Discretionary
Infection Control Fund	£602,142	CQC Registered Community providers of domiciliary care, extra care and supported living as well as providers commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council to deliver Day Services which are open and operational and Housing Related Support.

			The grant will be allocated to these providers on a per unit basis.
	Rapid Testing Fund	£542,196	Extra Care and Supported Living providers in line with grant conditions set. Allocation will also be extended to voluntary sector providers commissioned by the Council where they are actively engaged in lateral flow testing outside of the wider community offer.
	In the event of an underspend of either grant, the Council will review the proportion of underspend in each allocation and reappportion across all grant recipients.		
<b>Reasons for taking decision</b>	The grant conditions stipulate this funding must be allocated and transferred by the 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021. An urgent decision is therefore required to ensure grant agreement process can be implemented and funding distributed within the timescales set.		
<b>Options considered</b>	<p>This decision would ordinarily be taken by Adults Committee. As there will not be a virtual meeting of Adults Committee until 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021, it is important that the Chief Executive takes this decision.</p> <p>The Chief Executive has consulted and obtained the approval of all the Group Leaders to the document below.</p>		
<b>Details of any conflict of interests declared</b>	None		
<b>Details of any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared</b>	None		

Signature of decision maker (if appropriate)

*Gillian Beasley*

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Chief Executive