

SUBJECT:	LINCOLN INTERVENTION TEAM - YEAR 2 FUNDING
DIRECTORATE:	COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT
REPORT AUTHOR:	FRANCESCA BELL

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide Executive with information relating to the Lincoln Intervention Team, their achievements and work to date, and to seek approval for year 2 funding.

1.2 Year 2 funding is proposed to be met by City of Lincoln Council and the broader city centre partnership as set out in this report under Section 7.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The Lincoln Intervention Team was launched in October 2018 and currently has funding until December 2019.

2.2 The Team is working to reduce on street Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) by holistically working with individuals to deal with the root cause of their behaviour. The team includes an ASB Outreach Officer, Mental Health Nurse Outreach Officer, Addaction Outreach Officer and a Team Coordinator.

2.3 The Lincoln Intervention Team are currently funded by a range of partners including the Police and Crime Commissioner, Lincoln BIG and City of Lincoln Council.

2.4 Funding from partners for Year 2 has been secured allowing the Lincoln Intervention Team to operate for a further year (to Autumn 2020) subject to £65,000 of funding from City of Lincoln Council being released for the project.

3. Background

3.1 The team was set up in response to rising community tension in response to increased on street drug use and anti-social behaviour some of which was linked with the street community. This was effecting the business community in Lincoln city centre, as well as residents and visitors to the area. The increased drug use has proven to be a symptom of complex issues including addiction, mental health and homelessness combined with other vulnerability factors.

3.2 The Lincoln intervention team is a project that has been running for around 9 months to date launching in October 2018. The team consists of 4 members of staff as follows; a team coordinator, a mental health outreach nurse, an Addaction outreach worker and an Anti-Social Behaviour outreach worker. The team is a partnership comprised of staff from City of Lincoln Council, Lincoln Business Improvement Group, Addaction and Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

- 3.3 The aim of the team is to provide a holistic response to the individuals complex needs, this includes building a rapport with on street community through daily outreach as well as providing support and assistance across a range of issues. Whilst the team has a focus on reducing ASB, this is often achieved by looking beyond the behaviour exhibited, for example a persistent beggar in the city centre may be begging because they are not in receipt of benefits in which case arranging their benefits and accompanying and supporting them to do this may resolve the issue. Alternatively it may be that someone is using illegal drugs in the street because they are trying to manage a complex mental health illness, which could be addressed by our mental health nurse who can make appointments with a GP to review medication or refer them into other mental health services.
- 3.4 The team also works with a number of other services including Neighbourhood Nursing Teams, the local Shelter, Police, Probation and Social Care.
- 3.5 In addressing issues holistically the team aims to sustainably reduce ASB helping both the individual and the wider community thus increasing and building community resilience and tolerance, the feeling of safety within the city and reducing community tension.

4. Achievements of the team to date

- 4.1 The team have worked with 103 different individuals since the start of the project in October 2018 and have logged in excess of 614 actions on our case management system.
- 4.2 29 individuals have received in depth support for substance misuse and 5 have entered treatment where previously they were not engaging with services
- 4.3 39 individuals have received in depth support for mental health related issues and 14 have engaged in a support plan or entered treatment.
- 4.4 The team have issued 40 written warnings about behaviour or substance misuse, 10 legal notices, completed 4 prosecutions and obtained 1 Criminal Behaviour Order.
- 4.5 The team are working on a city centre injunction against persons unknown to provide additional powers to both the City Council and the Police when dealing with substance misuse in the city. The team are also working on obtaining an injunction against persons unknown who set up encampments or cause ASB in the area of the Usher Gallery.
- 4.6 The team have assisted Legal Services officers with the service of notices to remove encampments from City Council Land.
- 4.7 The team are assisting Lincolnshire Police to support vulnerable victims of County Lines mate crime across the city.

5. Current Team Staffing

- 5.1 The project launched in October 2018 with a soft launch, the team was complete with all members in place by December 2018. The staggered start dates mean that the Mental Health Nurse' contract runs until the start of December 2019.
- 5.2 Due to a short spell in January without an Addaction worker due to staff changeover has meant that we have secured the Addaction worker until December 2019.
- 5.3 The ASB Outreach worker is seconded from PPASB currently until October 2019 however this can be extended to match the other end dates of December 2019.
- 5.4 The Team Co-ordinator is currently seconded until October 2019.

6. Team Funding Year 1 2018/19

- 6.1 Funding for year 1 was achieved as follows:
- 6.2 **£65,000** from **City of Lincoln Council**. Used as follows:
 - Commissioning of the **Addaction Outreach Worker** contracted by LCC
 - Commissioning of the **Team Coordinator**
 - Commissioning the Development Plus research project
 - Uniforms, expenses, equipment and training
- 6.3 **£10,000** from **Lincoln BIG**. Used towards the **Team Coordinator**.
- 6.4 **£5,000** from **Lincoln West Clinical Commissioning Group**
- 6.5 **£50,000** from the **Police and Crime Commissioner**. Used as follows:
Mental Health Outreach Worker
- 6.6 The **ASB Outreach Officer** is seconded from the PPASB Team without the provision of backfill arrangements. This has an impact on service delivery within the PPASB Team, but also within the Intervention Team during times of absence.

It has been noted during the initial months of the Intervention project that during these times enforcement action cannot take place or is delayed as a result. It is therefore proposed going forwards that a cover arrangement is formalised to ensure continuity of service delivery across both teams.

7. Team Funding Year 2 2019/20

- 7.1 Team funding for year 2 is proposed as follows:
- 7.2 **£65,000** from **City of Lincoln Council**. Used as follows:
 - Commissioning of the **Addaction Outreach Worker** contracted by LCC
 - Commissioning of the **Team Coordinator**
 - To provide a level of **backfill for the Intervention Team to cover holidays, sickness and other absence**

- Contingency for price increases for staffing, expenses, training and equipment.

7.3 **£10,000** from **Lincoln BIG**. Used towards the **Team Coordinator**.

7.4 **£50,000** from the **Police and Crime Commissioner**. Used as follows:
Mental Health Outreach Worker

7.5 The **ASB Outreach Officer** is seconded from the PPASB Team without the provision of backfill arrangements.

7.6 The proposed funding structure above has confirmed funding at the values stated from Lincoln BIG, the Police and Crime Commissioner and continued secondment of the ASB Outreach Officer.

7.7 The £65,000 funding from City of Lincoln Council would enable the team to continue until December 2020.

8. **Strategic Priorities**

8.1 Let's drive economic growth

This is met by enhancing our city centre and retail area in both the daytime and night time economy by providing a safe and attractive city.

8.2 Let's reduce inequality

This is met by holistically protecting and supporting some of society's most vulnerable and overlooked groups.

8.3 Let's enhance our remarkable place

This is achieved by working to ensure our city is safe and vibrant and that visitors and residents feel safe from harm.

8.4 High performing services

The team provides a holistic and innovative service that works closely with key partners to achieve an improvement for both individuals and communities that will lead to sustainable positive changes.

9. **Organisational Impacts**

9.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

The Council's contribution to the Team of £65k for year 2 will be funded from the the Business Rates Retention Pilot Reserve, sufficient uncommitted funds remain in the reserve to allocate the £65k required.

9.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

The contract in place with Lincolnshire County Council regarding the procurement of an Addaction Worker allows for the extension of the contract for a further year. Meetings are taking place to formally agree this extension.

The agreement with LPFT regarding the procurement of the Mental Health Outreach Nurse allows for the extension of the agreement. Meetings are taking place to formally extend this.

9.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

The Public Sector Equality Duty means that the Council must consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees.

It requires that public bodies have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

9.4 Human Resources

As the ASB Outreach Officer is seconded without backfill in PPASB this has an effect on PPASB's ability to respond to all requests for service particularly during busy periods. The result of this is that it is necessary for PPASB to take a view on a case by case basis as to whether some low level issues will be responded to in the usual way. Where decisions are made at a team level to reprioritise work taken on this will be done openly and transparently and will be discussed with customers in order to manage expectations. The likely effect is that some low level cases may have delayed response times although in extreme circumstances cases not meeting our legal threshold for action may not be accepted.

10. Risk Implications

10.1 (i) Options Explored

- a) Reduce the support aspect keeping only the ASB outreach Officer and Co-ordinator.

The risk of this is lack of engagement from the client group. Previously partner organisations along with City of Lincoln Council have acknowledged that this approach is unsuccessful in isolation.

- b) Discontinue the service in December 2019.

The key risks associated with this option are increased ASB, a reduction in resources to tackle ASB and associated issues, public safety concerns and rising community tension. These issues are likely to result in bad publicity for City of Lincoln Council and will leave the vulnerable on street community with a lack of support.

10.2 (ii) Key risks associated with the preferred approach

This has limited risks associated with it however if the team is to disband after year 2 then an exit strategy will need to be planned and adhered to.

11. Recommendation

11.1 Executive Committee are recommended to:

- i) Note the performance of the team in the first 6-9 months of operation
- ii) Approve the allocation of £65,000 as match funding to enable the project to continue through to December 2020

Is this a key decision? No

Do the exempt information categories apply? No

Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply? No

How many appendices does the report contain? None

List of Background Papers: None

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