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| <p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub-Committee</p> <p>Tuesday 26 October 2021</p> |  <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p> |
| <p>Report of: Denise Radley, Corporate Director; Health, Adults and Community Services</p> | <p>Classification: Unrestricted</p> |
| <p>Contain Outbreak Management Fund – use and lessons learned</p> | |

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| <p>Originating Officer(s)</p> | <p>Somen Banerjee, Director of Public Health</p> |
| <p>Wards affected</p> | <p>All Wards</p> |

Executive Summary

The Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) provides local authorities with financial support to reduce the spread of coronavirus through test, trace and contain activity.

The funding is distributed to local authorities by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The government distributed £300m to local authorities in 20/21 (from July 2020) and in £400m in 21/22 based on the Relative Needs Formula weighting population and deprivation.

The report sets out the use of this fund in the context of the strategic aims of the Local Outbreak Management Plan and explores wider learning from the approaches that have been taken.

Recommendation for the Health and Wellbeing Board is to:

- Note the use of the Contain Outbreak Management fund and the broader learning

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1 There is no specific decision requested

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 There is no specific decision requested

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 See attached document

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Addressing the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on particular population subgroups (eg Black Asian and Minority Ethnic groups, people living with disability) and the association with deprivation have been an ongoing priority in the local response to Covid-19 and the allocation of Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF).

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

5.1 The Covid-19 Test & Trace and Contain Outbreak Management Grants received in 2020-21 were used in accordance with the Grant Conditions associated with each of these grants. Of the total £11.060m received in 2020-21, £2.672m was spent against a program of planned activities, allowing for £8.388m to be carried-forward for use in 2021-22.

5.2 A further £3.350m COMF grant was awarded to Tower Hamlets in 2021-22, giving a total available funding in this financial year of £11.739m. This funding has been identified against a program of staffing resources, and other planned workstreams, as described in the body of the main report. Work has been undertaken to identify costs in services across the Council that are eligible to be funded to the grant, in line with the grant conditions.

5.3 Any underspend remaining against the grant at the end of the financial year 2021-22, may need to be returned to the Department of Health and Social Care.

6. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

6.1 Section 2B of the National Health Service Act 2006 requires each local authority to take such steps as it considers appropriate for improving the health of the people in its area. The steps which may be taken include providing services or facilities for the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of illness, and making grants or loans available.

6.2 The matters set out in this report comply with the above legislation.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- Keep Tower Hamlets Safe – Local Outbreak Plan

Appendices

- NONE

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

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