

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Council Officer



REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL OFFICER

Executive Decision Reference Number – **COD08 25/26**

Decision	
1	Title of decision: Variation 74 of contract PEO 16175 to allow for payment of the Drug & Alcohol Treatment Recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG) awards for 2025-26 to Alliance partners.
2	Decision maker: Gary Walbridge (Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities)
3	Report author and contact details: Jane Marley (Public Health Specialist) (jane.marley@plymouth.gov.uk)
4a	Decision to be taken: To vary contract PEO 16175 to allow for payment of the Drug & Alcohol Treatment Recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG) awards for 2025-26 to Alliance partners, at a value of £2,448,683.75
4b	Reference number of original executive decision or date of original committee meeting where delegation was made: Cabinet 11 March 2024: The award of future contract variations up to the value of £3 million per variation, as a result of Grant funding (including, but not limited to, RSI and SSMTRG) within the period of the contract be delegated to the Strategic Director in consultation and agreement with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities and the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care.
5	Reasons for decision: A contract variation is required to ensure that the services funded by the Drug & Alcohol Treatment Recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG) 2025-2026 allocation are provided in line with the December 2021 National Drugs Strategy – From Harm to Hope. This proposal will ensure that, during this key time of strategic development and in the pandemic recovery, drug and alcohol treatment can be delivered, sustained and further expanded from both a best for people and commissioning perspective to continue delivering positive outcomes for Plymouth residents.
6	Alternative options considered and rejected: <u>Allow the Contract Extension and Variations for a lesser sum:</u> This option would not allow the services to be delivered that were described in our Drug Strategy Plan submitted to the Office of Health Improvement Disparities (OHID). This would require unspent allocated funds to be returned to OHID with the reputational damage and penalties for future funding allocations that would result. Services are already being delivered under this funding stream for 23/24, 24/25.

	<p><u>Do not extend or vary the contract:</u></p> <p>It is inappropriate to undergo a new procurement process to start a new contract for delivery of services of this level of complexity in this current (or following) financial year. The funds allocated for 2025/26 must be spent by 31 March 2026. In addition, the funding available relates to funding plans agreed by OHID which specify the existing provider partners who have been delivering Substance Use Treatment Services under this grant funding stream. This option would therefore result in the inability of Plymouth City Council to meet its statutory duty to take appropriate steps to address the needs of people experiencing / or at risk of homelessness and people using alcohol and substances.</p>			
7	<p>Financial implications and risks:</p> <p>The current core contract value of the Complex Needs Alliance Contract is £6,649,975.80 annum of which £3,737,216.07 comes from the Public Health Budget (Office of the Director of Public Health); the remaining balance comes from Strategic Co-operative Commissioning and Community Connections. Since the original contract was awarded in 2019 sources of additional grant funding have become available and this has meant that the budget for the service has fluctuated to reflect this.</p> <p>Under the Drug & Alcohol Treatment Recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG) funding stream, £2,448,683.75 has been allocated to delivery partners within the Plymouth Alliance, for the financial year 25/26; This grant is to support the improvements described in the December 2021 drug strategy.</p> <p>Allocations for 25 26 have now received departmental and HM Treasury approvals (via OHID). This grant is for increased drug and alcohol treatment services and is dependent on the Council maintaining existing investment in local council (20/21) investment in drug and alcohol treatment. The core budget for the Alliance is built into the Council's MTFP and reviewed regularly as part of this process to ensure that key objectives are being met. Additional projects are agreed as and when grant funding becomes available, for the duration of that funding. The money provided under the DATRIG funding stream is ring-fenced allocated funding there is no additional risk to core budget.</p>			
8	<p>Legal Implications and risks:</p> <p>None</p>			
9a	<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice)</p>	Yes	No	<p>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</p>
			X	in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			X	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million , annually
			X	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.

9b	If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions	N/A
10	Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:	This proposal relates to the following parts of the Corporate Plan and Plymouth Plan: Corporate Plan – Keeping adults, children and communities safe. Plymouth Plan – linked to a Welcoming City and a Healthy City, through addressing health inequalities and long-term health conditions, ensuring people feel safe and have the home they need.
11	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)	The services within the Alliance are delivered in Plymouth and aim to ensure that those using them can receive the help they need as close to home as possible, to minimise the need for any unnecessary travel. The project has been assessed to have neutral Environmental and Climate Impact. A Climate Impact Assessment is attached.


Urgent decisions

12a	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?	Yes		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support for advice)
		No	X	(If no, go to section 13a)
12b	Reason for urgency:			
12c	Scrutiny Chair signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			

Consultation

13a	Which Cabinet Member's portfolio does this decision relate to?	Councillor Chris Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing) Councillor Mary Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care)		
13b	Date Cabinet Member consulted	04/08/25		
13c	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes		
		No	X	(If no go to section 14)

I3d	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	N/A		
I3e	Date other Cabinet member(s) consulted	N/A		
I4	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		No	x	
I5	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name		Gary Walbridge
		Job title		Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities
		Date consulted		when signed
Sign-off				
I6	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	JS35 25/26	
		Finance (mandatory)	OW.25.26.079	
		Legal (mandatory)	LS/4552(07)/RH/25 0925	
		Human Resources (if applicable)	n/a	
		Corporate property (if applicable)	n/a	
		Procurement (if applicable)	BY/AHC/795/ED/0925	
Appendices				
I7	Ref.	Title of appendix		
	A	Briefing report for publication		
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment		
	C	Climate Impact Assessment		
Confidential/exempt information				
I8a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?	Yes		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in I8b below.
		No	x	

N/A		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:							
Background Papers								
19	<p>Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.</p> <p>Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</p>							
Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
n/a								
Council Officer Signature								
20	<p>I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.</p>							
Signature				Date of decision		5 November 2025		
Print Name		Gary Walbridge (Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities)						