

20.09.2023 **Appendix A - Next Phase of Levelling Up Our Communities**

- Amount to be allocated: £949,954
- All details including figures are subject to change - costs may vary by +/- 10%

Theme	Intervention	Evidence and Rationale	Delivery Mechanism	Approximate Cost (£) NB: <u>All funding is one-off/non-recurrent</u>
Digital Inclusion	<p>1. Develop a Gloucestershire Digital Inclusion Strategy building on the findings of the Closing the Digital Divides Report (2022) and national reports. Recruit a Digital Inclusion Programme Manager and other support to create the foundations for a coordinated implementation plan for the county working across the system.</p>	<p>This would be a fixed term position; the post-holder would act as a conduit to the Good Things Foundation and establish a legacy for all the work happening to tackle digital exclusion. The programme will be developed in collaboration with providers and stakeholders already working to reduce digital exclusion. The Cabinet paper seeks approval for proportional allocation of spend and an Officer Decision will be taken (and appropriate legal and procurement advice sought) once interventions have been fully scoped.</p>	Internal Transfer to GCC Team	250,000
Cost of Living	<p>2. Top up the Care Leavers Fund and extend support to 16-17 years olds (it is currently 18+).</p>	<p>The Council has defined care leavers as a protected characteristics group. This is a popular Fund which could go further to offer support to more care leavers and younger care leavers (16- and 17-year-olds) who are currently turned away. Each care leaver can receive up to a £250 contribution over 12 months.</p>	Internal Transfer to GCC 11-25 Permanency Service	50,000
Cost of Living	<p>3. Fund specialist housing and welfare paid capacity to advise and support residents with issues related to cost of living county-wide (including debt, welfare benefits, housing, switching to online Universal credit and energy advice)</p>	<p>Demand for housing and welfare support has increased significantly in the last year. The Citizens Advice Bureau operating in the North and West of the county alone receives 1,200 calls a week. At present, they are only able to support approximately 500 residents a week and of those residents, only 30% receive full advice and the rest are signposted. Concerns relate to a broad array of issues linked to the rising costs of living including debt, rent arrears and housing issues. Residents must also migrate to Universal Credit. Organisations working in this area are impacted by changes in the volunteering landscape post-Covid-19; many volunteers are now less likely to commit to formal volunteering, the type of volunteering required for this work as they need high-level training and supervision. Organisations in this area are therefore needing to move from being 'volunteer-led' to 'volunteer-supported' and find ways to fund paid capacity. This is especially important to respond to the growing need for specialist support for complex issues and to 'handhold' for longer; the capacity for which has reduced significantly in the county, due to changes in the sector.</p>	Direct Grant Award to External Partner	99,954
Online Harms and Vulnerable Young People	<p>4. Fund a campaign of work to raise awareness of, and tackle, modern harms.</p>	<p>Local research has identified that this is a growing issue and of growing concern to parents and professionals across Gloucestershire. The initial next steps comprise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scoping the different cohorts of young people and if possible, undertaking some engagement with them.</li> <li>2. Researching and documenting existing interventions already happening in the county to avoid duplication and identify opportunities for joint working.</li> <li>3. Conducting a rapid evidence review regarding what works.</li> <li>4. Preparing an options appraisal around possible interventions and implementing interventions.</li> </ol> <p>Interventions may include training for staff, a communications campaign, etc. A combination of interventions may be pursued. Relevant teams (in Public Health, Education and Childrens) will liaise throughout to join up work and ascertain who is best placed to deliver the intervention/s. The Cabinet paper seeks approval for proportional allocation of spend and an Officer Decision will be taken (and appropriate legal and procurement advice sought) once interventions have been fully scoped.</p>	Internal Transfer to GCC Education Team	150,000

20.09.2023 **Appendix A - Next Phase of Levelling Up Our Communities**

- Amount to be allocated: £949,954
- All details including figures are subject to change - costs may vary by +/- 10%

<p>Online Harms and Vulnerable Young People</p>	<p>5. Fund a project to be delivered in schools and community settings to raise awareness of online harms amongst children and young people.</p>	<p>Young people today face several modern harms while being online:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cyberbullying</li> <li>- Online Predators</li> <li>- Sexting and Non-consensual Sharing</li> <li>- Exposure to Inappropriate Content</li> <li>- Online Harassment and Hate Speech</li> <li>- Privacy and Data Security</li> <li>- Mental Health Impacts</li> <li>- Online Gambling</li> </ul> <p>Parents, educators, the voluntary sector and society as a whole need to understand these modern harms and work together to create safe and supportive environments for young people.</p> <p>The programme of delivery could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness-raising sessions and workshops in schools, post-16 education provision and community. This could be small group delivery in schools, youth clubs, and community venues in secondary and post-16 age groups, ensuring that young people know about online modern harms and their impact.</li> <li>• Small group support to young people identified in schools, community groups, or through self-referral who are struggling with the impact of online harm within their lives.</li> <li>• One-to-one support for young people identified as being high risk due to experiencing online harms such as bullying, grooming, harassment and exploitation.</li> </ul>	<p>Grant Award to External Partner</p>	<p>100,000</p>
<p>Online Harms and Vulnerable Young People</p>	<p>6. Drug and Alcohol Tier 2 Development Work</p>	<p>The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime<sup>1</sup> note that there is a complex interplay of factors that make children and young people vulnerable to substance misuse and other risky behaviours. It is not possible to address such vulnerabilities by simply implementing a single prevention intervention that is often isolated and limited in its timeframe and reach. An effective system delivers an integrated range of evidence-based interventions and policies in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support children and youth throughout their development and particularly at critical transition periods where they are most vulnerable, e.g., infancy and early childhood, at the transition between childhood and adolescence.</li> <li>• Target the population at large, but also support groups and individuals that are particularly at risk.</li> <li>• Address both individual and environmental factors of vulnerability and resilience.</li> <li>• Reach the population through multiple settings (e.g., families, schools, communities, etc.).”</li> </ul> <p>Tier 2 Targeted services are youth orientated services, offered by practitioners with some drug and alcohol experience and youth specialist knowledge. At this level, assessment of needs is undertaken, more specific prevention and early intervention work including brief interventions, harm reduction advice and relapse prevention, and referral to more specialist services if required. Targeted work is</p>	<p>Internal Transfer to GCC Team</p>	<p>100,000</p>

<sup>1</sup> [International Standards on Drug Use Prevention \(unodc.org\)](https://www.unodc.org/) 2020

20.09.2023 **Appendix A - Next Phase of Levelling Up Our Communities**

- Amount to be allocated: £949,954
- All details including figures are subject to change - costs may vary by +/- 10%

		<p>delivered to groups in the population with a higher level of risk and those who are already using substances, are not yet experiencing dependence, but who may be showing signs of problematic use.</p> <p>As part of the development of the Gloucestershire Combating Drugs Partnership Action Plan partners are looking to have a much deeper understanding of the county's needs in relation to tier 2 services and interventions for children and young adults. There is already some provision of Tier 2 in the county and anecdotally the need is increasing. The resource could be targeted at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fixed term post to carry out in-depth research and engagement to assess needs in relation to Tier 2 substance misuse services for young people.</li> <li>• Scoping and development of a commissioning strategy to meet identified needs and,</li> <li>• Commissioning/Implementation of any agreed interventions.</li> </ul>		
Community Transport	<p>7. Fund a vehicle replacement scheme for community transport; to match fund the upgrading of community transport vehicles to enhance modernisation, accessibility, and efficiency.</p>	<p>The current fleet of community transport vehicles is old and not fit for purpose, significantly impacting on capacity. They are often 'off the road' which means they have to cancel expectant passengers going on health, community and leisure journeys. This would certainly reduce breakdowns and pressures on capacity.</p> <p>There is a growing demand for community transport, particularly in such areas as Cinderford, and this is exacerbated by the imminent opening of the new hospital in Cinderford (to which there are currently no public transport links).</p> <p>This would be a good use of one-off funding (compared to funding driving capacity which would need to be sustained), particularly as funding for vehicles is traditionally difficult to obtain (due to vehicles depreciating in value).</p> <p>The "Public Transport: BSIP+ and Procurement" paper aims to provide revenue investment for bus services and demand responsive services in Gloucestershire, however, cannot be spent on Capital schemes. By complimenting that investment with £200k towards replacement Community Transport vehicles, we ensure that all areas of passenger transport services receive investment to provide greater coverage.</p>	Internal Transfer to GCC Integrated Transport Unit	200,000
<b>Total:</b>				949,954