

To: Councillor Mark Stephenson, Leader of Tendring District Council

From: Barbara Pole, Economic Growth & Enterprise Manager

Cc: Ian Davidson, Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Lee Heley, Corporate Director, Place and Economy

Cc: Richard Barrett, Assistant Director, Finance & IT

Cc: Mike Carran, Assistant Director, Economic Growth & Leisure

Cc: John Fox, Head of Health and Communities

Date: 14th March 2025

Dear Councillor Stephenson,

Allocation of £20,000 to the North Essex Councils and £20,000 to part fund the ICB Head of Health Partnerships.

Within a report of the Portfolio Holder for the Corporate Finance and Governance, titled **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2024/25 – GENERAL UPDATE AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2024** dated 15th November 2024, a recommendation was made to Cabinet that they;

(a) note the Council's in-year financial position at the end September 2024;

(b) approve the proposed adjustments to the 2024/25 budget as set out in Appendix 1H and requests Officers to review the potential on-going impact in 2025/26 and beyond where necessary as part of developing the forecast and detailed estimates for further consideration by Cabinet later in the year;

(c) subject to b) above, in respect of the additional sum of £0.040m made available to support North Essex Councils collaborative activities and Joint Health Post with Health Partners that is set out in Appendix 1H, agrees a delegation to the Chief Page 153 Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance and the Portfolio Holder for Partnerships to utilise this funding to support any associated work;

The recommendations were agreed and a decision is now required to:

Allocate £20,000 to support North Essex Councils.

North Essex Councils (NEC) is a partnership of councils in North Essex, including Braintree District Council, Chelmsford City Council, Colchester City Council, Epping Forest District Council, Essex County Council, Harlow District Council, Maldon District Council, Tendring District Council, and Uttlesford District Council.

The aim of the NEC is to work together collaboratively on issues such as housing, infrastructure and economic development.

The Council contributed £20,000 on a trial basis in 2023/4. That supported the development of North Essex Councils as a collaborative group, and work has continued in 2024/5, including the recruitment of a Director to support NEC. The Director has supported the development a themed approach to joint working, with workstreams on economic growth, climate change and housing. In 2025 councils became part of the Devolution Priority Programme, with plans developing for Devolution and Local

Government Reorganisation. This has enabled, for example, the Economic workstream, to run a series of workshops to develop draft proposals for a high-level economic plan for North Essex, which has the potential to feed into proposals within the new Mayoral Combined Authority as it develops during 2025/6.

As a result, it is proposed to provide £20,000 for 2024/5 to support the work of North Essex Councils.

Allocate a £20,000 contribution towards the Head of Place Partnership

The Head of Place Partnership for Tendring is employed by the North East Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB) to develop the Place approach for the district of Tendring. The post operates within the North East Essex Alliance, which is a collective of government, healthcare and voluntary organisations, who work together to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities have an increasing focus on Place.

The Post is employed by the ICB, focused on Tendring District, and will work closely with Tendring District Council.

Health and Wellbeing is very important to the Council. The Council is out to consultation on a Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which sets out the importance of public health, and the role of the Council in promoting the wider determinants of health through many of its services, such as housing, planning, benefits, sport and leisure and economic growth. We are also spending funding from the health system, for example on the health homes for Jaywick programme.

This post will support the joint working between the Council and the health system, both on the Council's aspirations set out in the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and health partners approach to public health, focused on targeting activity and services within places (the 'place approach').

The ICB has agreed to provide full backstop funding for this post, which has been filled subject to standard Human Resource checks. The Council has been asked, as a partner, to make a contribution to the costs of the post, given the works on the shared public health agenda with the District Council.

It is noted that reductions in staffing budgets have been announced nationally related to the ICB. However, we understand the post will be progressed from the ICB side.

If the post is successful there may be a request, under separate decision, for a further £20,000 next year.

If you could, by way of a completed form (below) or by return email, indicate your consent to proceed the allocation of funds as detailed above, I will provide a draft officers decision for Ian Davidson, Chief Executive Officer's approval prior to publishing. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me to discuss any aspect further before granting your consent.

Kind regards,

Barbara Pole

Economic Growth & Enterprise Manager
Tendring District Council

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Cc: Ian Davidson, Chief Executive Officer
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Cc: Richard Barrett, Assistant Director, Finance & IT
Cc: Mike Carran, Assistant Director, Economic Growth & Leisure
Cc: John Fox, Head of Health and Communities

Date: _____

Dear Barbara,

Allocation of £20k to the North Essex Councils and £20k to a Joint Health Post.

Thank you for your memorandum dated 8th March 2023 requesting approval to spend on projects identified as part of the year 2 allocation of UKSPF, and the spend of the £20,000 capacity payment.

I agree/ ~~do not agree~~ that the identified project spend can proceed.

Kind regards,



Cllr Mark Stephenson
Leader, Tendring District Council

19/3/2025

