

## Appendix A : COVID-19 funding streams 2020-2021

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Funding	Brief overview	Schedule 1 – Test & Trace / Outbreak Management / Infection Control activity	
		St Helens allocation (£'000)	Other comments
Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund	To support adult social care providers in reducing the rate of COVID-19 infection and transmission, in and between care homes, and support wider workforce resilience.	3,500	Conditions prescribe funding can only be used to support care homes and community providers to tackle the risks of COVID-19 infections in particular by minimising the movement of staff between settings, allowing staff to be paid their full pay whilst isolating and providing enhanced infection control measures. Elements of the fund can also be used for the purchase of PPE. Use of the fund is reported on a regular basis to the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC).
Test and Trace Funding	To support the mitigation and management of local outbreaks of COVID-19, including the setting up of local systems to support outbreak management.	1,328	The Outbreak Management Plan has been developed using a framework that was developed by CHAMPs (Cheshire and Merseyside) public health network. Cabinet considered a report at its meeting on 23 September 2020 that approved the overall model of delivery.
Control Outbreak Management Fund	Set up following the move to local COVID-19 alert levels, the fund provides additional support to local authorities for proactive containment and intervention measures and capacity regarding interventions to break the chains of transmission. Activity is co-ordinated through the People's Board / Health Protection Board / Outbreak Management Board.	2,360	<p>The Government agreed an overall package of funding for Liverpool City Region (LCR) authorities in October when it was announced that the City Region would be placed in the highest Local Alert Level category ("Very High Risk"), with the Council allocation including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £435k for Enforcement</li> <li>• £1,621k for Test and Trace (incl. Central T&amp;T hub)</li> <li>• £160k for Shielding / Clinically Extremely Vulnerable People</li> </ul> <p>Additional payment from the Fund, ring-fenced for public health purposes to break the chain of transmission and protecting the most vulnerable from catching the virus.</p>
		567 (ongoing - tbc)	

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Compliance and Enforcement Grant	To support compliance and enforcement of measures to control the spread of COVID-19 across individuals, businesses and in the community.	117	COVID marshals have been deployed to engage, explain and encourage best practice and national COVID-19 secure guidance. Enforcement powers remain the remit of the police and designated local authority compliance and enforcement officers.
Support for MAST (Mass Asymptomatic Serial Testing)	<p>To support the delivery of a largescale community and targeted symptom-free testing programme within the borough, whereby everyone living or working in St Helens Borough can now get a free COVID-19 test.</p> <p>Identifying and supporting infectious people to isolate before they develop symptoms will help reduce spread. By taking a symptom-free test, it will also identify those who are not carrying the virus and therefore allow them to come out of isolation more quickly.</p>	2,000 tbc	In early December 2020, a bid for funding from the DHSC via the LCR for the delivery of MAST or Systematic Meaningful Asymptomatic Repeated Testing (SMART) in the Borough was successful. Official confirmation of allocation and conditions is still awaited.

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Schedule 2 – Support direct to individuals			
Funding	Brief overview	St Helens allocation (£'000)	Other comments
Test and Trace Isolation and Payments Policy	To support people on low incomes who have been requested to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, are unable to work from home, and lost income as a result.	97 (main programme)  58 (Discretionary scheme)	Scheme operational from 28 September 2020, with eligible individuals receiving £500 payment on top of any benefits and Statutory Sick Pay that they receive.  Discretionary scheme approved by way of Delegated Executive Decision (0002 2020/21) for those not in receipt of a qualifying benefit but who would suffer financial hardship due to not being able to work.
Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV)	To provide support to Clinically Extremely Vulnerable people, including helping people to access food and meeting other support needs to enable them to stay at home as much as possible during the national lockdown.	187	Funding is equivalent to £14.60 per CEV individual on the shielded patient list.
Hardship Fund	To support economically vulnerable people and households by way of council tax relief - providing all recipients of working age local council tax support ('LCTS') during the financial year 2020-2021 with a further reduction in their annual council tax bill of £150.	1,906	In administering this support, the Council has ensured that there has been no need for any recipient of LCTS to make a separate claim for a reduction under the scheme.  Eligibility has been determined automatically, with billing arrangements revised accordingly.

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Schedule 3 – Support direct to businesses			
Funding	Brief overview	St Helens allocation (£'000)	Other comments
Small Business Grant Fund (SBGF) and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund (RHLGF) – main programme	To support local businesses and the retail, hospitality, and leisure sectors. Local authorities were responsible for administering the grants of £10,000 and £25,000 to eligible businesses.	26,560	Funding of £25,000 for eligible businesses with property with a rateable value of between £15,000 and £51,000. Those with a rateable value of under £15,000 entitled to a grant of £10,000. Subject to State Aid rules.
Discretionary Grants Fund	Support to those businesses who were significantly impacted by the COVID shutdown but were not eligible to access the initial SBGF and RHLGF schemes. The scheme was initially aimed at small and micro businesses, alongside charities and voluntary sector organisations.	1,580	Delivery was managed in 3 approved Phases to ensure that support was targeted to maximise community and economic impact and ensure full application of available funding.
Christmas Support Payments (CSP) for Wet Led Pubs	To provide support over the festive period for wet-led pubs, where tier two or three restrictions have been imposed.	70	The funding is to support pubs who derive less than 50% of their income from food sales and provides a one-off payment amounting to £1,000 per eligible wet-led pub.
Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSB) - closed	To support businesses that that have been legally required to close as a result of National or Local Tier restrictions.  (Businesses that have not been required to close but have been severely impacted by local restrictions are supported via the LCR scheme)	6 (ongoing – tbc)	The scheme must be administered in line with Government requirements, for example, the business must have been previously open and providing in-person services to customers prior to local / national restrictions being applied and must be liable for Business Rates.  Payments are based on rateable values:

			Rateable Value	14-day period	28-day period
			£15,000 or less	£667	£1,334
			£15,001 and less than £51,000	£1,000	£2,000
			£51,000 or greater	£1,500	£3,000
<b>Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSB) – sector</b>	To support businesses that that were legally required to close on 23 March 2020 and have never been able to re-open e.g. night clubs.	<b>2,862 (ongoing – tbc)</b>	This scheme will be administered in line with Government requirements, with grant funding for eligible businesses payable by Local Authorities in 14-day payment cycles with eligibility starting 1 November 2020:		
			Rateable Value	14-day period	28-day period
			£15,000 or less	£667	£1,334
			£15,001 and less than £51,000	£1,000	£2,000
			£51,000 or greater	£1,500	£3,000
<b>Hospitality and Leisure Sector Support Grant</b>	When the LCR was put into Tier 3 of COVID restrictions, a £31.2m package of support was agreed to provide funds to support hospitality and leisure sector businesses and licensed taxi drivers across the region which had been negatively affected by trading restrictions imposed upon them in response to COVID-19.	<b>1,224</b>	By way of Emergency Decision on 24 November 2020, approval was given, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the establishment of an LCR hospitality and leisure sector support grant fund in order to support hospitality and leisure businesses across St Helens and the City Region which have been negatively affected by trading restrictions imposed upon them in response to COVID-19.</li> <li>to agree to develop the grant eligibility in line with the broad principles set out in the report with delegation</li> </ul>		

	<p>The fund aims to enable viable qualifying businesses to continue trading and retain as many jobs as possible; support temporarily closed businesses to top up employees' wages and remain solvent; and to help lay the ground for economic recovery across the hospitality and leisure sector in the future.</p>		<p>to the Executive Director of Place Services and the Executive Director of Corporate Services to agree the final set of terms and conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to agree to accept from the LCR initial funding of £1.224m and any subsequent allocations as determined as part of the overall funding to the LCR, with the funds to be administered in line with the terms and conditions of the grant scheme developed under the broad principles outlined in the report.</li> </ul> <p>The amounts awarded are calculated according to the number of full-time equivalent employees and the rateable value of the commercial premises occupied, with grants paid on a phased basis. Evidence that the business is still trading, employing the relevant number of staff, and is able to receive the grant as per State Aid rules are required for ongoing payments to be made.</p>
<p><b>Hospitality, Leisure and Retail Grants (Expanded Scheme)</b></p>	<p>To address an identified gap, to help those businesses that had been unable to access other national support schemes remain open, applications were invited for funding from the previously announced £31.2m LCR funding package. This provided vital support to the hospitality and leisure supply chain, non-essential retail, self-employed, sole traders, licensed market traders and limited companies based at home who predominantly supply the hospitality and leisure sectors.</p>	<p>tbc</p>	<p>The Hospitality, Leisure and Retail Grants (Expanded Scheme) opened for applications that meet the eligibility criteria from 30 November 2020 to 11 December 2020.</p>

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Schedule 3 – Support direct to businesses			
Funding	Brief overview	St Helens allocation (£'000)	Other comments
<p><b>January 2021 lockdown top up grants for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses</b></p>	<p>On 5 January 2021 the Chancellor announced funding for one-off top up grants to retail, hospitality and leisure businesses, worth up to £9,000 per property, to help businesses through to the Spring.</p>	<p>tbc</p>	<p>Further precise detail is awaited at the time of preparing this report. The headlines of the announcement suggests that the one-off top-ups will be granted to closed businesses as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £4,000 for businesses with a rateable value of £15,000 or under</li> <li>• £6,000 for businesses with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000</li> <li>• £9,000 for businesses with a rateable value of over £51,000</li> </ul> <p>Subject to the specific conditions and criteria that will be issued, businesses which are legally required to close due to national restrictions imposed by government as of 5 January 2021, and which cannot operate effectively remotely, are eligible for a grant.</p>
<p><b>January 2021 lockdown - Discretionary Fund</b></p>	<p>Funding is also being made available for Local Authorities to support other businesses not eligible for the January 2021 lockdown top up grants, that might be affected by the restrictions.</p>	<p>tbc</p>	<p>Further precise detail is awaited at the time of preparing this report, though government have stated that such businesses should apply to their Local Authorities.</p> <p>As with the previous Discretionary Grants Fund, support programmes will seek to maximise community and economic impact and ensure full application of available funding.</p>

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		Schedule 4– Other funding streams (non schools)	
Funding	Brief overview	St Helens allocation (£'000)	Other comments
Rough Sleeping Contingency Fund	Allocated in March 2020 to assist local authorities to provide accommodation and support to people who were at high risk, and were rough sleeping or in a shared accommodation, and were therefore unable to self-isolate.	8	Allocation was part of a £3.2m initial national allocation to help local authorities and frontline services put emergency measures in place. Ongoing arrangements have been funded through a combination of Housing Benefit, Next Steps Accommodation Programme funding and COVID Emergency Funding.
Re-opening High Streets Safely Fund	To allow local authorities to put in place additional measures to establish a safe trading environment for businesses and customers, particularly in high streets, through measures extending to March 2021.	160	Funding is subject to grant claim in arrears for expenditure incurred on prescribed, eligible activities.
Food and Essential Supplies	Allocated in July 2020 to support people struggling to afford food and other essentials due to Covid-19.	265	CLT approval for expenditure, including foodbank support, voluntary sector commissioned support, community hub food parcels and homelessness food provision.
Wellbeing for Education Return Grant	To support pupils and students' wellbeing and psychological recovery as they returned to full time education in Autumn 2020.	25	Via Administrative Decision PEO001654 Barnardo's were commissioned to deliver the project for St Helens schools.
COVID Winter Grant Scheme	Made available in December 2020 to provide support to families with children and other vulnerable households and individuals with the cost of food, energy and water bills and other associated costs.	716	Use of funding runs through to 31 March 2021 and will enable the extension of free school meal provision in school holidays, with the balance of funding available for other support activity.

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		Schedule 5 – Other funding streams (schools)	
Funding	Brief overview	St Helens allocation (£'000)	Other comments
Exceptional costs associated with coronavirus (COVID-19)	<p>Funding for eligible exceptional costs incurred due to COVID-19, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increased premises related costs of keeping schools open over school holiday periods, for vulnerable children and children of critical workers.</li> <li>• additional cleaning, over and above existing arrangements, where schools have a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.</li> </ul>	215	Funding is subject to submission of claims by individual schools
Coronavirus (COVID-19) catch-up premium	To support children and young people to catch up lost time after school closure.	395	£80 for each pupil aged 4 and over in primary and secondary schools. £240 for each high needs place in special schools and pupil referral units.
COVID workforce fund	Funding to support schools in relation to the costs of covering for staff absence during the autumn 2020 term due to COVID.	tbc - schools required to submit claims	Eligibility is conditional on the level of balances held by the school, and the level of staff absence exceeding specified thresholds.