

**CCG REPORT COVER SHEET**

<b>Meeting Title:</b>	<b>Governing Body in Public</b>	<b>Date: 11 May 2021</b>								
<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>Primary Care Covid Capacity Fund 2021/22</b>	<b>Agenda Item: 4.4</b>								
<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Jessica Bawden, Director of Primary Care									
<b>Clinical Lead:</b>										
<b>Report Author:</b>	Dawn Jones, Head of Primary Care									
<b>Document Status:</b>	Final for Governing Body									
<b>Report Summary:</b>	To seek formal approval and sign off from Governing Body on the spending plan for the additional Covid Capacity Fund allocation for 2021/2022									
<b>Report Purpose:</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>For Assurance</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>For Decision</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>For Approval</b></td> <td>x</td> <td><b>For Recommendation</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>For Assurance</b>		<b>For Decision</b>		<b>For Approval</b>	x	<b>For Recommendation</b>		
<b>For Assurance</b>		<b>For Decision</b>		<b>For Approval</b>	x	<b>For Recommendation</b>				
<b>Recommendation:</b>	The Governing Body is asked to approve the Spending plan for the additional Covid Capacity Fund allocation for 2021/22.									
<b>Link to Corporate Objectives: 2020/22</b>	<b>Ensure everyone has the opportunity to improve their health and well-being</b>		x							
	<b>Level-up health and care provision to ensure our communities in areas of high deprivation and need get the resources needed to minimise inequalities</b>		x							
	<b>Focus time and resources on areas where people receive most of their health and care services, the community</b>		x							
	<b>Facilitate organisations to join forces at 'place' and offer 'patient first' well-co-ordinated efficient services to those who need them.</b>		x							
	<b>Deliver our statutory financial commitments as best as possible</b>		x							
<b>CAF (Strategic Risk) Reference</b>	<b>Description of Risk</b>	<b>Current Risk Score</b>								
CAF07	There is a risk that the business models for delivering primary care services become unsustainable impacting on access to primary care services.	<b>9 Amber</b>								
<b>Impact Assessments</b>	<b>Equality</b>	n/a								
	<b>Health Inequalities</b>	n/a								
	<b>Health Impact</b>	n/a								
	<b>Data Privacy</b>	n/a								
	<b>Sustainability</b>	n/a								
	<b>Quality</b>	n/a								
<b>Financial Impact</b>	N/A									
<b>Chief Officer/ SRO Sign Off:</b>	Jessica Bawden – Director of Primary Care									
<b>Chief Finance Officer Sign Off: (if required)</b>	N/A									
<b>Legal implications</b>	Failure to deliver on the Statutory duties of the CCG under Delegated Commissioning									
<b>Conflicts of Interest</b>	All GPs should declare an interest in this item. The Deputy Chair of the Governing Body will chair this item. GPs will be able to comment in their corporate role but will not be able to vote if this is required.									
<b>Report history:</b>	Briefing Paper on 2020/21 Covid Capacity Fund Allocation presented to The Primary Care Commissioning Committee in December 2020.									
<b>Next steps:</b>	To brief the Primary Care Commissioning Committee and confirm details of the Covid Capacity Fund spending plan to Primary Care									

**MEETING: GOVERNING BODY IN PUBLIC**

**AGENDA ITEM: 4.4**

**DATE: 11 MAY 2021**

**TITLE: PRIMARY CARE COVID CAPACITY FUND 2021/22**

**FROM: DAWN JONES  
 HEAD OF PRIMARY CARE CCG**

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**1 ISSUE**

- 1.1 On the 19 March 2021 NHS England & Improvement (NHSE/I) announced details of an additional £120m funding during April-September 2021 to support general practice to maintain and expand capacity until the end of September 2021.
- 1.2 The funding is ringfenced for general practice to support their ongoing response to COVID-19, to help tackle the backlog of care and to recognise their commitment towards delivery of the COVID-19 vaccination Programme.
- 1.3 Details of this additional funding allocation are set out in a letter to CCGs and GPs. **(Appendix A)**
- 1.4 The purpose of this paper is to brief Governing Body members on the spending plan for this allocation, which has been developed in discussion with the CCG Chief Officers Team (COT) and the Local Medical Committee (LMC). A briefing paper will also be presented to the CCGs Primary Care Commissioning Committee for noting.

**2 KEY POINTS**

- 2.1 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCGs (C&PCCG) Covid Capacity Fund allocation for April 2021-September 2021 has been confirmed as £1.895 million. The allocation will be released to the CCG as follows:

Allocation Period	Amount £000s
Quarter 1 (April – June 2021)	<b>1.263</b>
Quarter 2 (April- Sept 2021)	<b>632</b>
Total	<b>1.895</b>

- 2.2 The funding is ringfenced for primary care and is non-recurrent and therefore should not be used to fund commitments running beyond the allocation period.
- 2.3 The conditions attached to the allocation and use of this funding are as set out in the initial *General Practice Covid Capacity Expansion Fund* letter of 9 November 2020 **(Appendix B)**.
- 2.4 Systems are expected to use the funding to make further progress on the seven classification priorities identified in that letter. For ease of reference these are set out in **Table 1** below.

**Table 1 – Seven Classification Priorities**

Priority	Descriptor
1	<i>Increasing GP numbers and capacity</i>
2	<i>Supporting the ongoing provision of the simple COVID oximetry at home model</i>
3	<i>Continue to support the identification and supporting of patients with Long COVID</i>
4	<i>Continuing to support clinically extremely vulnerable patients</i>
5	<i>Continuing to support the restoration of services and clear backlog of patients for chronic disease management and routine vaccinations and immunisations</i>
6	<i>On inequalities, making significant progress on improving uptake of SMI and learning disability health checks by September 2021</i>
7	<i>Potentially offering backfill for staff absences where this is agreed by the CCG, required to meet demand, and the individual is not able to work remotely.</i>

2.5 Though this funding is not allocated to support COVID-19 vaccination directly, systems are expected to prioritise spending on PCNs committed to deliver the Covid Vaccination Enhanced Service whose capacity requirements may be greater. All PCNs within the C&PCCG system are currently signed up to deliver the vaccine programme to cohorts 1-9.

2.6 Feedback from COT on the initial proposal was to ensure that the funding formula applied to the dissemination of this funding at practice level, takes account of the inequalities that exist within the C&P CCG system and that funding is distributed fairly and proportionately to reflect this.

### 3 Covid Capacity Fund – CCG Proposed Spending Plan 2021/22

3.1 The following proposed spending plan takes account of the seven key priority areas detailed in Table 1 above and has been developed in conjunction with the LMC. The plan supports a pragmatic approach to supporting primary care to utilize the funding flexibly to meet individual practice needs, whilst also prioritizing some CCG key areas of focus. This flexible, pragmatic approach is encouraged by NHSE/I and aligns us with the same approach adopted by neighboring CCGs/STPs.

3.2 **Table 2** below sets out the proposed allocation of funding for use of the COVID Capacity Fund allocation.

**Table 2**

Priority	Descriptor	2021/22 Allocation Investment
1	Increasing GP numbers and capacity	<b>625k</b>
2	Supporting the ongoing provision of the COVID oximetry at home model	Via GP Federations
3	Continue to support patients with Long COVID	113k funding accrued from 2020/21 to support 2021/22
4, 5 & 6	Tackling inequalities, continuing to support: COVID vaccination programme & clinically extremely vulnerable patients during transition back to full restoration of services	<b>635k</b>
7	Additional investment to support CCG priority areas of focus	<b>635k</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1.895m</b>

## 4 DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS

### 4.1 Increasing GP numbers and capacity

**£625k** is to invest in a 2-month extension (£312k per month) to the GP Federation Surge Hubs contracts to provide additional workforce capacity and appointment availability to GP Practices during August and September 2021.

In addition, to ensure all practices have equitable access to this resource, the Primary Care Team in collaboration with CCG Urgent and Emergency Care Colleagues and GP Federations, will be working with a small number of practices where data and intelligence suggests they may require some additional support to improve access. Given this additional funded capacity is time limited, the Primary Care Team will be communicating with all practices around managing the transition back to business as usual to ensure appointment demand going forward matches capacity and patient access to general practice is not compromised.

### 4.2 Tackling Inequalities, continuing to support: Covid Vaccination Programme and clinically vulnerable patients during the transition back to full restoration of services.

**£635k** invested at practice level based on practice weighted population list sizes.

This additional funding is in recognition of the workload associated in identifying household members of the immunosuppressed patients as part of the covid vaccination programme and to support the transition back to BAU. Funding could be utilized to put on additional clinic capacity to clear any outstanding backlogs and to improve access for patients as part of the transition back to full restoration of services including national and locally commissioned services.

### 4.3 Additional Investment to support CCG priority areas of focus.

**£635k** invested at practice level, based on practice weighted population list sizes to support:

- Improved SMI Physical health checks and COVID Vaccine uptake - Target ambition 85% using 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 as a baseline position.
- Review and catch up of all high-risk drug monitoring and any other Clinically prioritized reviews in Q1 of 2020/21
- Timely response to ECLIPSE Live Drug Alerts.

## 5 Reporting, Monitoring and Payment

5.1 The CCG will be taking a “light touch” approach to monitoring progress against the above, in line with the national direction of travel for this allocated fund. For audit purposes the CCG will provide practices with a simple excel template that captures high level information against the priority areas of spend with an accompanying declaration to ensure that the practice funding has been used appropriately.

5.2 Practices will be remunerated monthly in line with the profiled allocation of funds as they are released to the CCG by NHSE/I.

## 6 RECOMMENDATION

6.1 The Governing Body is asked to approve the Spending Plan for the additional Covid Capacity Fund allocation for 2021/22.

**Author** *Dawn Jones*  
**Head of Primary Care CCG**  
**06 May 2021**

**Appendix 1 – GP Funding Letter March 2021**  
**Appendix 2 – GP Funding Letter November 2020**