

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	4607
Author:	Veronica Fairley
Department:	People
Contact:	Veronica Fairley (Job Title: Supporting Families Ops Lead, Email: veronica.fairley@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 65964)
Subject:	Supporting Families Programme Staffing
Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):	Yes
Total Value:	£1.690m (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To accept the grant of £1.690m for 2022/23.2. To approve spend of £0.554m to fund continuation of existing staffing to maintain the programme delivery from April 22 to March 23.3. To approve spend of £0.437m to contribute to the continuation of the Edge of Care and Family Intervention project teams.4. To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of People/Director of Children's Integrated services to release the residual grant funds as required to support the programme (up to a total of £0.699m).
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>The Supporting Families programme is a high-profile national programme, which attracts income to the City through a Payment by Results process, tightly monitored by the national team in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).</p> <p>This is a long-standing programme, with Phase 2 commencing in 2015. Posts outlined above have been established roles since this time. There are no changes proposed to the existing job descriptions or contractual arrangements. National funding for the programme is now confirmed for 2022-2025, however confirmed funding is only available for 2022/23 at the moment.</p> <p>Income generated through the programme is reinvested in services for children, young people and families and roles which support wider system change, improvement and transformation. The City's programme has been a high-performing programme through Phase 2, meeting all national targets and driving change and innovation across the partnership.</p>

Other Options Considered:	To delete all posts and discontinue support to the programme - this option has been rejected as is a high-profile national programme which generates significant income for the City. Income generated through the programme is invested in frontline service delivery for families and system change and transformation.
Background Papers:	None
Published Works:	Supporting Families Programme Guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supporting-families-programme-guidance-2022-to-2025
Affected Wards:	Citywide
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	None
Consultations:	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
Crime and Disorder Implications:	None arising from the decisions to be taken.
Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: An EIA is not required as this is a continuation of an existing programme.
Relates to staffing:	Yes
Decision Type:	Leader's Key Decision
Subject to Call In:	No The call-in procedure does not apply to the proposed decision because the delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or Vice-Chair) in his/her absence has been consulted and agreed both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency.
	Person Consulted: Councillor Anne Peach, Chair - O&S Committee
	Consultation Date: 06/04/2022
	Due to timescale involved - grant must be accepted by 22 April.
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance, Human Resources

Legal Advice:

The grant funding is subject to terms and conditions which if not met could result in clawback of the grant. All grant conditions regarding time frames within which services and deliverables must be completed/targets to be achieved, monitoring information to be provided etc: must therefore be met. Any elements of the services procured by the Council must be in accordance with public contract regulations and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

Advice provided by Sarah O'Bradaigh (senior solicitor) on 08/04/2022.

Finance Advice:

The decision requests approval to accept the Supporting Families grant funding and associated spend from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

This request is an extension of the original National Troubled Families Programme that commenced in December 2013 followed by Phase 2 in 2015. The guidance highlights the objectives in 2022 to 2025; however, only the the 2022/23 funding allocation is confirmed. Further approval is required for 2023/24 and 2024/25 once confirmed.

Nottingham City's allocation for 2022/23 is £1.690m, including payment by results to achieve 570 successful family outcomes. The funding is assumed in the MTFP and aligns to existing posts and services. The grant aims to focus on improvement and transformation, in particular developing the maturity of the Early Help system. As funding is ringfenced for the purposes set out in the agreement, services should satisfy themselves that the existing spend continues to align to the conditions of the grant. The programme is subject to conduct assurance reviews and any conditions not achieved could be subject to clawback.

Whilst the core grant is paid in advance, Payment by Results is paid quarterly in arrears following receipt of successful outcomes, this is equal to £0.456m.

Advice provided by Christine Green (Strategic Finance Business Partner) on 11/04/2022.

HR Advice:

As the funding has only been agreed until 2023 in the first instance, an appropriate exit strategy must be in place in order to terminate the contracts in line with NCC guidance in the event that the funding is not extended in line with the national agreement to 2025. Management will need to ensure appropriate timelines are in place to notify the affected employee and give appropriate notice and access to the redeployment register where applicable. This will need to include consideration of financial costs for potential compensatory payments for redundancy, in the event where contracts have been extended and more than 2 years' service is accrued.

Advice provided by Aadil Bhatti (HR Consultant) on 11/04/2022.

Signatures:

David Mellen (Leader/ PH Strategic Regeneration Communications)
SIGNED and Dated: 19/04/2022
Catherine Underwood (Corporate Director for People)
SIGNED and Dated: 19/04/2022