

Executive Board – 21 March 2023

Subject:	Supporting Families Grant Funding 2023/2024
Corporate Director(s)/Director(s):	Catherine Underwood, Corporate Director for People
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Cheryl Barnard, Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People
Report author and contact details:	Veronica Fairley, Operational Manager Supporting Families Veronica.fairley@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Chad Thompson
Subject to call-in:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Key Decision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Criteria for Key Decision:	
(a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £750,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision	
and/or	
(b) Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Type of expenditure: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital If Capital, provide the date considered by Capital Board Date:	
Total value of the decision: £1,971,933	
Wards affected: All Wards	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s): 28/2/23	
Relevant Council Plan Key Outcome:	
Clean and Connected Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Working	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carbon Neutral by 2028	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safer Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child-Friendly Nottingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Healthy and Inclusive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Moving	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improve the City Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial Stability	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serving People Well	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):	
The Supporting Families Programme supports whole family working across the City and partnership and are monitored through payment by result to gain best outcomes for the families.	
Does this report contain any information that is exempt from publication?	
None.	
Recommendation(s):	

1	To accept the grant of £1,971,933
2	To approve spend of £804,444 to fund continuation of posts and staff to maintain the programme delivery from April 23 to March 24
3	To approve spend of £0.437m to the continuation of the Edge of Care and Family Intervention project Teams
4	To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of People/Director Children's Integrated services to release the residual grant funds as required to support the programme (up to a total of £230,489). The remaining balance of £500,000 has been accounted for in the MTFP.

1. Reasons for recommendations

1.1 The Supporting Families programme is a high profile national programme, which attracts income to the City through a transformation fund and Payment by Results process, tightly monitored by the national team in the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

2. Background (including outcomes of consultation)

2.1 This is a long-standing programme. Phase 2 commenced in 2015 and Phase 3 commenced in 2022. Income generated through the programme is reinvested in services for children, young people and families across the City and roles which support wider system change, improvement and transformation. The City's programme has been a high performing programme through Phase 2 and year 1 of Phase 3, meeting all national targets and driving change and innovation across the partnership.

3. Other options considered in making recommendations

3.1 To delete all posts and discontinue support to the programme – this option has been rejected as it is a high profile national programme which generates significant income to the City.

4. Consideration of Risk

4.1 The Supporting Families has national Programme Guidance, Outcomes Frameworks and sign up conditions that needs to be met, which could result in 'clawback' if these are not met and adhered to.

Internal Audit, external audit, Senior Responsible Officer and National Team annual assurance visits offer significant programme scrutiny. All targets are currently being met.

5. Best Value Considerations, including consideration of Make or Buy where appropriate

5.1 The spend is relevant to staffing costs and teams.

6. Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money/VAT)

- 6.1 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 2023/24 funding allocation is confirmed. Further approval is required for 2024/25 once confirmed. Nottingham City's allocation for 2022/23 is £1.972m, including payment by results to achieve 922 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, 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 £0.738m. **Advice provided by Clare Rickett, Senior Commercial Business Partner, Children's & Commissioning, 28 February 2023**

Legal colleague comments

The DLHUC funding for the Supporting Families Programme will be subject to grant funding conditions which, if not complied with, could be at risk of being suspended, withdrawn or subject to clawback from the Council. Any procurement of goods and/or services with the funding must be in compliance with public procurement rules and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

S O'Bradaigh, Senior Solicitor 0/03/2023

7. Other relevant comments - HR

This decision relates to acceptance of Supporting Families Grant Funding 2023/2024, which will allow NCC to retain existing colleagues until March 2023. Posts have already been established within the structure and been approved via the job evaluation process.

If funding is accepted, management of the posts will remain with NCC, and NCC will retain all employment liabilities including any exit payments that may be payable at the end of the funding period. Management should ensure a clear agreement is in-place to guarantee the funding for the proposed period, with all on-costs included in order that all salary-related costs are off-set by the funding.

As the posts are initially temporary due to funding arrangements, an appropriate exit strategy must be in place to terminate the contract in line with NCC guidance in the event that the post cannot be made permanent at the end of the fixed term period. Management will need to ensure appropriate timelines are in place to notify the affected employee and give appropriate notice.

Extension of existing secondment arrangements will need to be discussed with the appropriate managers within the original parent department and approval to be obtained. Further advice should be sought from HR where

secondments are declined by the parent department taking into account the contractual implications of agreeing a further extension.

At the expiry of the fixed term contracts, management will need to ensure a plan is in place with appropriate timelines to undertake appropriate actions. Post holders may also have access to Redeployment jobs. Any costs relating to time on the redeployment register such as potential work trials and pay protection must be picked up by the exporting department. If individuals are not redeployed into alternative roles prior to the termination of their contracts, there may be redundancy costs if they have accumulated two or more years' service and in addition there may also be pension strain costs if the affected individuals are between the age of 55 and 60. The report should highlight this as a consideration in terms of how costs will be met at the end of the fixed term contracts.

Management will need to ensure that organisational decision principles and the Decision Making Accountability Principles (DMA) and therefore any proposed staffing structure must be compliant, taking into account levels of management as well as spans of control.

HR is supportive of the proposal to accept funding and retain these posts, as this will enable NCC to retain the employment of colleagues until March 2023.

Leanne Sharp
HR Consultant
HR Departmental Teams – People's
Advice provided on 28th February 2023

8. Crime and Disorder Implications (If Applicable)

8.1 None arising from the decisions to be taken.

9. Social value considerations (If Applicable)

9.1 N/A

10. Regard to the NHS Constitution (If Applicable)

10.1 N/A

11. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

11.1 Has the equality impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No

An EIA is not required because this is a continuation of an existing programme

Yes

12. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

12.1 Has the data protection impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No
A DPIA is not required because:
(Please explain why a DPIA is not necessary)

Yes

Phase 3 Supporting Families DPIA is currently with Head of Service Analysis & Insight for approval and not ready for publication.

13. Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA)

13.1 Has the carbon impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No
A CIA is not required

Yes

14. List of background papers relied upon in writing this report (not including published documents or confidential or exempt information)

14.1 None

15. Published documents referred to in this report

15.1 **Department of Levelling Up Housing & Communities Supporting Families Programme Guidance**

15.2 **Department of Levelling Up Housing & Communities Supporting Families Outcome Framework**