

All Committee meetings were cancelled with effect from 23rd March, 2020 due to the COVID-19 emergency.

The recommendations in this report were approved by an Executive Director of the Council, acting under delegated authority in terms of paragraph 2.1.1 of the Council's List of Officer Powers

31 March 2020 (CANCELLED)

*Approved by Executive Director, Education & Children's Services -
27th March, 2020*

Support for Voluntary Organisations

Report by Carrie Lindsay, Executive Director (Education & Children's Services Directorate)

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

This report presents recommendations for the level of support to voluntary organisations funded by Education and Children's Services in Fife for the period 2020-2021.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Committee:

- Approve the level of funding to voluntary organisations for 2020-21 as detailed in the attached Schedules.
- Note the engagement activity with the Third sector during 2020/21 to support future recommendations for funding and service delivery.

Resource Implications

The grant schedule 2 appended to this report detail recommendations from Education & Children Services totalling £4,221,170.

The total amount awarded in 2019/20 was £4,057,334. The difference being fully accounted for by £185,000 of Our Minds Matter funding being paid out of last year's funding which is not included this year, £450,000 of School Counselling Monies being paid out this year but not last year and a true saving of £49,414 due to service re provision.

The total amount awarded for Pupil Equity Funded (PEF) projects in 2019/20 was £235,445.95. Grant schedule 3 details the proposals for 2020/21.

Legal and Risk Implications

All awards are recommended for support subject to compliance with Fife Council's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework which requires that they are reviewed on an annual basis as part of the Council's ongoing commitment to ensuring organisations are meeting the terms of their Service Level Agreement.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA and summary form have been updated, this is attached to the report. As part of an independent review commissioned in 2019 engagement has taken place with Third sector providers, elected members and Officers in Fife Council to consider how best to review and redesign services to meet the areas of priority need within Education & Children's Services (E&CS).

Consultation

Following discussion at the Education & Children's Services Committee on the 29th of October 2019 agreement was reached regarding cross party engagement in the review of commissioned services. On the 14th of January 2020 an initial engagement session took place with the Third sector to outline the programme of work and priorities within the Children & Families strategy to inform recommissioning within the Third sector. A further session is scheduled for the 2nd of April 2020.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 During 2019/20 Fife Council provided just over £4 million in grant support to voluntary organisations commissioned to contribute and add value to Education and Children's Services activity. Most of this support is provided through recurring grants directly to the organisations with a small amount being delivered through the non-recurring Grants Schemes.
- 1.2 As part of the financial strategy 2017-2020 the budget saving of £900,000 in respect of support provision across Education, Social Work and the Third Sector was agreed. The saving target of £450,000 was attributed to both Fife Council family support services and Third sector organisations.
- 1.3 During 2018 family support services within Fife Council were subject to redesign and a saving of £450,000 was achieved leading to a more streamlined and efficient service working collaboratively across children's services.
- 1.4 A report was presented to Education & Children's Services Committee on the 19th of March 2019. The decision at Committee was to proceed with an independent review to secure efficiency savings of £410,000 and support future commissioning. On this basis there was no change to Third sector awards pending the outcome of the review.
- 1.5 A further report was presented to Education & Children's Services Committee on the 29th of October 2019. This provided information on the outcome of the independent review and various options for consideration to address the efficiency savings. The decision at Committee was no change to Third sector awards during 2020-21 based on the need to develop a significantly different commissioning strategy and relationship with the Third sector. The review identified similar themes to previous thematic reviews. These included:
 - Duplication and overlap of services
 - Fragmentation of services across localities
 - Impact of short-term funding for the Third sector
 - More clarity required regarding models and interventions to evidence impact and longer-term sustainability
- 1.6 The engagement session with the Third sector held on the 14th of January provided details of the refreshed Children & Families strategy which has been informed by analysis of trend data. This confirmed that demographic changes and the impact of poverty are key contributors to outcomes for vulnerable children and families. Information on the current financial challenges within Children and Families was shared identifying the need to redeploy resources more efficiently and effectively which will require fundamental service redesign across services including the Third sector as part of a recommissioning strategy.

- 1.7 As detailed previously, this paper includes additional awards using Scottish Government funding, being provided to local authorities to support access to counselling through schools, enabling locally provided support for children and young people aged ten years and older. The share of funding for Fife is £1,000,000 for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23, with baseline funding into the Local Government Settlement thereafter. As part of the programme for investment in the Fife model for school counselling service a commissioning process has been undertaken to identify suitably qualified specialist, third sector providers to deliver two workstreams for a) 1:1 and Group Counselling Services and b) Listening, Coaching and Mentoring Services across Fife.

The funding for the Fife School Counselling Service - 1:1 and group counselling Service is £300 000 for 2020/21 and for the Fife School Counselling Service - Listening, Coaching and Mentoring Service is £150 000 for 2020/21.

- 1.8 With the implementation of the Pupil Equity Fund schools are being encouraged to work with voluntary organisations to provide additional support for young people and their families with a view to closing the poverty related attainment gap. This is resulting in and will continue to result in schools engaging the services of the voluntary organisations over and above core service contracts and at an additional cost
- 1.9 The appended schedule 3 details the awards recommended for approval that will be delivering activities for Fife Council from within the Pupil Equity Fund.

2.0 Monitoring and Evaluation

- 2.1 The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework is continually updated and developed, putting robust procedures in place within Services providing support to voluntary organisations. The work is overseen by the Voluntary Sector Task Group which includes representatives from each of the Council's Services awarding grants to voluntary organisations as well as Audit Services and representation from the third sector. The Task Group is responsible for reviewing the overall Framework and updating particular sections as necessary.
- 2.2 The following monitoring and assessment procedures are undertaken prior to each award being presented to the Education and Children's Services Committee for a decision:
- Organisations are required to submit an application or forward plan outlining the services they aim to provide during the period 2020-2021.
 - All projects funded in the previous year have undergone either an annual monitoring exercise or if appropriate a 3-year evaluation. Where the organisation receives over £10,000, the annual monitoring is carried out by the appointed Link Officer. An independent officer who is not the organisation's Link Officer carries out the 3-year evaluation. As part of these monitoring procedures an assessment of the governance of the organisation is made. This includes compliance with relevant legislation such as child protection.
 - The organisation's constitution and latest set of annual accounts have also been checked. The latter are checked by officers from Finance and Corporate Services;

- The project is assessed by the appropriate Service Management Team against the priorities of the Service, the Council's priorities and the Fife Community Plan.
- Having gone through each of these stages the award is then presented to Committee for decision. If the award fails to satisfy all elements of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, the recommendation will be delayed and presented for Members' consideration at a future Committee meeting. Where compliance conditions are not being met, it may be recommended that no funding is provided.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 Throughout 2019 there has been significant engagement with the Third sector including an independent review of Education & Children Services commissioned services. This activity has confirmed the need to develop a more robust commissioning approach in Fife to ensure services are designed and available to meet need. Reshaping of services is underway within the Children & Families services and similarly this is now a requirement for the Third sector.
- 3.2 The range of activity during 2020-2021 includes:
- Development of a Recommissioning Plan
 - Engagement sessions with the Third sector, elected members and lead officers
 - Development of service briefs
 - Grant application process
 - Awards recommendations for 2021-2022
- 3.3 The above activity will be completed in this financial year and a refreshed commissioning strategy will be in place from 2021.
- 3.4 On the basis of the above it is recommended that the awards for 2020-2021 outlined in schedule 2 and 3 are approved.

Appendices

1. Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report
2. List of recommendations for recurring grants from Education and Children's Services.

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:

- Policy Paper: Review of Support for the Voluntary Sector – Policy and Resources Committee, Fife Council 16.02.06
- Code of Guidance on Funding External Bodies and Following The Public Pound - COSLA/Accounts Commission 1996
- Voluntary Sector Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

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Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

(to be attached as an Appendix to the committee report or for consideration by any other partnership forum, board or advisory group as appropriate)

<p>Which Committee report does this IA relate to (specify meeting date)?</p> <p>Education & Children’s Service Committee</p>
<p>What are the main impacts on equality?</p> <p>There could be a reduction in number of children, young people and vulnerable families receiving a service as SLA output figures could be reduced.</p>
<p>What are the main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified?</p> <p>As part of the GIRFEC framework services are being designed to be responsive and adaptable to local needs, this requires greater collaboration locally, building on the strength of universal services. This will ensure families receive the right services at the right time within the available budget. The redesign of E&CS to a whole family approach will result in greater scope for existing services to work in partnership with colleagues in the Third sector and mitigate against any possibility of families welling needs not being addressed early and proportionately. An independent review has been completed and consideration given to the options, this will now progress to the implementation of a recommissioning strategy to be completed during 2020/21</p>
<p>If there are no equality impacts on any of the protected characteristics, please explain.</p>
<p>Further information is available from: Name / position / contact details:</p> <p>Lynn Gillies Service Manager (Children & Families) Tel 03451 555 555 ext 443043</p>

One of the following statements must be included in the “Impact Assessment” section of any committee report. Attach as an appendix the completed EqlA Summary form to the report – not required for option (a).

- (a) An EqlA has not been completed and is not necessary for the following reasons:
(please write in brief description)
- (b) The general duties section of the impact assessment and the summary form has been completed – the summary form is attached to the report.
- (c) An EqlA and summary form have been completed – the summary form is attached to the Report

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE
Grants to Voluntary Sector 2020-21**

Appendix 2

Organisation	Project Description	2019-20 Funding	2020-21 Funding
Aberlour Childcare Trust	Provision of Residential Short Break and Outreach Service for children with Learning Disabilities and Autism.	£510,428	£461,529
Apex - Glenrothes	Offer young people who are looked after and have left the looked after system support and advice in making progress towards employment, training or education.	£53,455	£53,455
Barnardo's - IP Capacity Assessment & Children's Rights Service	Family assessment and support services, Parenting Assessment and Children's Rights Service shaped around 'The Getting it Right for Every Child' Principles.	£749,161	£749,161
Birthlink	Provides assistance in the fulfilment of statutory duties towards adults affected by adoption.	£4,963	£4,963
CHAS	CHAS is established to provide hospice services in Scotland for children and		£46,342

Organisation	Project Description	2019-20 Funding	2020-21 Funding
	young people with life limiting conditions Fife contributes to the overall funding in line with COSLA agreement.	£46,342	
Childline Scotland	Contribution to the telephone helpline, free confidential access to all children and young people.	£2,108	£1,600
Children's Parliament -subject to current review – funding to 30 th June 2020 only	To facilitate two Children's Parliament groups in Fife exclusively for younger looked after children who will explore, through creative arts and focussed group work.	£69,000	£17,250
Clued-Up Project	Provides a comprehensive youth friendly drug information and support service to young people under 25 in the Kirkcaldy area.	£133,255	£133,255
Cottage Family Centre	Community based family support to children and families (3 yrs.), living in the Gallatown area of Kirkcaldy.	£299,423	£299,423
Crossroads (Fife Central)	Provides respite for carers to enable them to have a break from their caring role.	£26,994	£26,994

Organisation	Project Description	2019-20 Funding	2020-21 Funding
Drug and Alcohol Project Leven (DAPL) *Includes School Counselling Monies of £450,000	Provides specialist counselling, support and information and awareness to people affected by their own substance use.	£422,344	£752,344
Early Years Scotland	Development Officer support to Playgroup committees to ensure financial sustainability, explore alternative management models and promote best management practice and procedures.	£45,764	£45,764
Families First	Supports families and provides activities for families through a range of supports.	£38,384	£38,384
Families Outside	Counselling Service for Children and families affected by imprisonment.	£14,000	£14,000
Family Mediation Tayside/Fife	Provides information, mediation counselling and other closely related service to separated and divorced parents and their children.	£55,313	£55,314
Fife Gingerbread	Provides accessible and non-judgemental support, advice and information to lone parent in Fife.	£219,104	£219,104

Organisation	Project Description	2019-20 Funding	2020-21 Funding
Fife Women's Aid	Provides refuge, follow-on and outreach support for children and young people aged 0-16 years that have experienced domestic abuse.	£477,197	£477,197
Fife Young Carers	Provides support service to young carers age 8 – 18 years.	£135,403	£135,403
Homestart (Dunfermline)	Provides support to vulnerable families. Families referred are experiencing difficulties and have at least one child under 5.	£97,311	£97,311
Homestart (East Fife)	Provides support to vulnerable families. Families referred are experiencing difficulties and have at least one child under 5.	£71,479	£71,479
Homestart (Glenrothes)	Provides support to vulnerable families. Families referred are experiencing difficulties and have at least one child under 5.	£88,006	£88,000
Homestart (Kirkcaldy)	Provides support to vulnerable families. Families referred are experiencing difficulties and have at least one child under 5.	£91,070	£91,070

Organisation	Project Description	2019-20 Funding	2020-21 Funding
Homestart (Levenmouth)	Provides support to vulnerable families. Families referred are experiencing difficulties and have at least one child under 5.	£80,122	£80,122
Homestart (Cowdenbeath)	Provides support to vulnerable families. Families referred are experiencing difficulties and have at least one child under 5.	£84,342	£84,342
Relationship Scotland – Couple Counselling	Provides a confidential counselling service for people in Fife who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage or intimate personal relationship.	£22,826	£22,826
RNIB	Provision of specialist resources, information, advice and support for families, childcare settings and staff to enable child centred support specific to children’s individual needs.	£30,690	£30,690
SCMA	Community Childminding - Childminding services for children and families at times of crisis and need, support is tailored to family’s needs and priority is given to children 0-3		£47,520

Organisation	Project Description	2019-20 Funding	2020-21 Funding
	yrs. of age. Inc. Development Officer Support.	£47,520	
Scottish Child Law Centre	Promotes the rights and welfare of children and young people through the provision of free specialist legal advice, information and training.	£2,209	£2,209
Seal Association	Support aimed at children and young people experiencing difficulties at home, school or in the community.	£28,596	£28,596
Snowdrop	Provides a crèche for 15 children giving respite for parents/carers in Lower Methil.	£2,314	£2,314
Who Cares	Provide independent safeguard for young people who are looked after and accommodated within Fife's residential units.	£43,209	£43,209
		£3,992,332	£4,,221,170

Pupil Equity Funded Awards

Organisation	School	Project Description	Award 19/20	Requested Grant 20/21	Additional Comments
Kelly Laing	Glenwood High School	<p>Mindfulness Based Courses for adults and young people</p> <p>Parent / Carers / Teachers Course and young person's course the courses are based on the traditional Mindfulness based Stress reduction course and runs over 8 weeks.</p> <p>Chill Skills - Chill skills for teens and young people is run over 6-8 week. During this pupils will learn how to relax and de-stress Achieve goals; learn how to recognise and deal with emotions in a healthy way; learn about mindfulness and the brain</p>	£8,580	£8,580	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service

Glenrothes Boxing Club	Glenwood High School	The programme aims to teach girls the fundamental skills of boxing and exercise. The programme will cover various areas of health and fitness including cardiovascular training, strength & conditioning, goal setting, fitness testing as well as basic boxing skills. Using boxing training and various elements of exercise the aim is to encourage these girls to become more confident, fitter, healthier in both mind and body and to show	£1,200	£1,200	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
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Appendix 3

		them the benefits of competing within a sport.			
Fighting Chance Project (Scotland)	Glenwood High School	Targeting pupils aged between 11-18 who are disengaged, are socially isolated or lack positive role models, have low self-confidence or self-esteem, are victims of neglect, crime or bullying and who may engage or be at risk of taking part in low level antisocial behaviour or from being excluded from education by offering them the chance to take part in the Yellow Belt Challenge	£3,040	£3,040	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Kenny Morrison	Glenwood HS	To provide a four week seminar on practical basic self-defence to raise awareness of possible situations and how to avoid / control and defend against attackers. Written handouts are provide on the course material that is taught and a question answer session is completed at the end of the seminar.	£600	£600	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
DAPL	Glenrothes High School	Engage with S1 to S3 who are identified as having self regulation and peer issues and /or pressures from the home setting	£16,800	£16,800	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Columba 1400	Glenrothes High School	Outdoor activities to support pupils in developing skills, values and leadership capacity	£15,000	£15,000	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service

Fighting Chance Project (Scotland)	Glenrothes High School	Targeting pupils aged between 11-18 who are disengaged, are socially isolated or lack positive role models, have low self-confidence or self-esteem, are victims of neglect, crime or bullying and who may engage or be at risk of taking part in low level antisocial behaviour or from being excluded from education by offering them the chance to take part in the Yellow Belt Challenge	£3,040	£3,040	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Fare Share	Glenrothes High School	Charity providing food for use in The Glen, Breakfast Club and Home Economics. Reducing Pupil Hunger	£3,600	£3,600	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Judo Scotland / Fighting Chances / Yellow belt	Balwearie HS	Fighting Chances / Yellow Belt Challenge will facilitate and deliver a project at Balwearie High school over the session 2019/2020 term 1 to term 4. Targeting pupils aged between 11-18 who are disengaged, are socially isolated or lack positive role models, have low self-confidence or self-esteem, are victims of neglect, crime or bullying and who may engage or be at risk of taking part	£ 2,000	£ 2,000	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service

		in low level antisocial behaviour or from being excluded from education by offering them the chance to take part in the Yellow Belt Challenge			
Drug and Alcohol Project Ltd (DAPL)	Lochgelly West	A DAPL Counsellor will deliver tailored counselling and support to the identified young people and families.	£25,200	£25,200	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Drug and Alcohol Project Ltd (DAPL)	St Josephs	Counselling and Support service 21 hours per week over 40 weeks in St Joseph's school	£30,500	£22,000	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Drug and Alcohol Project Ltd (DAPL)	Kirkcaldy High School	DAPL will provide a qualified Counsellor for 2 days per week over 40 weeks to Provide creative group process for young people; who are identified as struggling to engage in school process due to complex home /life situations associated poverty and related social issues.	£8,400	£8,400	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Drug and Alcohol Project Ltd (DAPL)	St Kenneths PS	Counselling and Support service 21 hours per week over 40 weeks in St Kenneths primary school	£28,500	£28,500	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service

Drug and Alcohol Project Ltd (DAPL)	Queen Anne High School	Counselling and support service 2 days per week over 40 weeks in Queen Anne High School	£14,000	£14,000	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Drug and Alcohol Project Ltd (DAPL)	Queen Anne High School	Counselling and Support service 21 hours per week over 40 weeks in Lynburn PS	£0	£22,000	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Clued Up	Kirkcaldy High School	Clued Up will provide a dedicated Kirkcaldy High School Project worker for one full day a week. The worker will engage with the most vulnerable young people in S1, S2 and S3 who are affected by substance use and are struggling to engage with education. The worker will provide intensive support and work alongside partners to help support their families	£5,358	£5,358	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Clued Up	Madras College	Clued Up will provide a dedicated Kirkcaldy High School Project worker for 1-1 sessions with young people. The worker will engage with the most vulnerable young people in S1, S2 and S3 who are affected by substance use and are struggling to engage with education. The worker will provide intensive support and work alongside partners to help support their families	£0	£5,500	Funded by Scottish Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service

		support identified youngsters and families			Government attainment Challenge Fund via Education Service
Pupil Equity Funding			£146,374.95	£235,445.95	