

Report for: Cabinet 12th March 2019

Title: Request for approval to accept a grant for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents Innovations fund in accordance with Contract Standing Order (CSO) 17.0

Report authorised by: Charlotte Pomery – Assistant Director Commissioning

Lead Officer: Sarah Hart Public Health Senior Commissioner – Substance Misuse, Sexual Health, Health improvement
Tel:020 8489 1480 E-mail: sarah.hart@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non-Key Decision:** Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1. This report requests Cabinet approval to accept a grant for the provision of services for **Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents Innovation Fund 2018** as allowed under Contract Standing Order 17.1 (for grants valued at £500k or more).

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

2.1. Having supported the Council's bid for the Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents Innovations Fund, I was delighted that Haringey was chosen and welcome this grant award.

2.2. Currently there is a demonstrable need for focused work to increase identification and enhance the support available to families affected by parental alcohol use. In Haringey it is estimated 73% of alcohol dependent adults living with children do not access treatment. Parental alcohol use can be a major factor in causing a range of poor outcomes for children including damaging their education, employment and health. National data shows that parental alcohol misuse was recorded as a factor in 18% of children 'in need' cases¹ and 37% of cases where a child was seriously hurt or killed².

2.3. Haringey Council and delivery partners have developed an ambitious plan to create a systemic response to improving outcomes for these families. This multi-agency project will raise awareness and up-skill professionals which in

¹ Department for Education's census showed that in 2016 to 2017,

² <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/POST-PN-0570/POST-PN-0570.pdf>

turn will improve identification of alcohol dependent parents and their children, increase referrals to alcohol treatment and increase numbers of children and families accessing emotional and social support.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. For Cabinet pursuant to CSO 17.1 to approve the receipt of a grant for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents Innovation Fund 2018 in the sum of £633,161 (six hundred and thirty-three thousand one hundred and sixty-one pounds).

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1. On 18th January Haringey Council was awarded a grant for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents Innovation Fund 2018. Cabinet is required to agree to receipt of this grant as stipulated by CSO 17.1 as the value is over £500k

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1. Cabinet could refuse to receive the grant. However, as there was a clear need for this work and strong support to create services for these families, this option has not been considered.

6. Background information

- 6.1. In 2018 Public Health England (PHE) published data on the prevalence of parental alcohol dependency and levels of unmet need per local authority. This showed that although better than its statistical neighbours, Haringey was only meeting 27% of treatment need, thus around 546 adults with 1038 children are receiving no help.
- 6.2. Subsequently the Department of Health and Social Care with the Department of Work and Pensions launched a bidding process for an Innovation Fund project for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents. They were looking to invest in eight programs nationally with a total funding pot of £4.5 million over three years. Haringey Council designed a bid with Blenheim CDP who run both the alcohol and young people's and families substance misuse service, Adfam a national charity for families affected by another's substance misuse, Anchor which provides a trauma and resilience-based program and the Bridge Renewal Trust. Service users were consulted for their views and ideas.
- 6.3. Haringey's successfully bid for a grant of £633,161 which will be used to create a multi-agency project to provide parenting services to 160 families, access 120 alcohol dependent parents into treatment and provide 170 children with one to one support. This will be achieved by raising awareness, up-skilling our community and workforce and employing a team of specialist alcohol support workers.

- 6.4. What is the new service going to address? – we believe that although Haringey has many great family services, currently these services don't ask or talk about parental alcohol use. Schools and community services may detect signs of parental alcohol use, but don't feel equipped to 'open the issue up.' Alcohol treatment is focused solely on the presenting adult's addiction, with no parental support or help to the non-using family members.
- 6.5. What will the project do? The project intends to enable Haringey to recognise and talk about parental alcohol use. The Bridge Renewal Trust will work with the Anchor project to reach 2000 people connected to supporting children and families, to raise awareness of the importance of helping children of alcohol dependent parents. Adfam, Anchor and Blenheim CDP will design new parental alcohol identification tools and train up 40 alcohol specialist/champions across the sector. 10 specialist workers will provide one to one and family support assisted by 10 Haringey peer mentors. See appendix 1 for a breakdown of the funding allocation.
- 6.6. Parental alcohol is so stigmatised, why will families accept this service? – the service will be embedded in the community. We will hold community engagement events to choose 3 locations for the service. In these locations we will create an alcohol parental support network to help families recover in their own community. We expect the network to include 6 schools, the local GPs, Early Help and family voluntary sector services. The network will receive awareness raising, training, new tools, one to one and family support and peer mentoring.
- 6.7. What is the legacy – regardless of whether there is further funding the project will leave a raised awareness of the issue, embedded alcohol identification tools, alcohol expertise within the existing workforce and there will be local peer supporters. The program has both a local and national evaluation, so the Council will be able to decide if this program has a return on investment.
- 6.8. Grant allocation – the conditions of this grant is that the spend is in accordance with the proposal for which it is awarded and that the appropriate documentation is submitted to Public Health England when requested. Failure to comply with this may result in the recall of all or part of the funding. The project will be monitored locally by public health, reporting into a steering group chaired by the Assistant Director of Commissioning

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

Priority 1: Best Start in Life
Priority 2: Outstanding for All

8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

8.1 Finance

There are conditions of use attached to this grant, as such it is imperative for the service to ensure regular monitoring of expenditure so that the terms of award are adhered to. Appropriate records need to be maintained via the use of the Council's general ledger, so that clear audit trails can give the awarding body assurance on the use of grant, and information requested can be provided at any time throughout the duration of the contract. Any deviation from the terms of award may result in a request for part, or all the funds to be repaid, resulting in a financial liability to the Council.

8.2. **Procurement**

- 8.2.1. There are no procurement ramifications for the receipt of grant funding. However, payment of grant monies to external organisations will have to meet CSOs and undergo competitive processes where appropriate
- 8.2.2. The request for approval is in line with the requirements of CSO 17.1 and may be approved by Cabinet.

8.3. **Assistant Director of Corporate Governance**

- 8.3.1 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance notes the contents of the report.
- 8.3.2 Pursuant to CSO 17.1 a Cabinet decision is required for approval of receipt of grants valued at £500,000 or more.
- 8.3.3 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance sees no legal reasons preventing Cabinet from approving the recommendations in the report.

8.4. **Equality**

- 8.4.1. The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
 - Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 8.4.2. This report relates to the receipt of a grant to support children of alcohol dependent parents. The service by its nature provides support to vulnerable people, including those with the protected characteristics.

8.4.3. Parental alcohol dependency is highly stigmatised and so it is to be expected that parents with protective characteristics may face additional challenges in seeking help. This was explored within the service design, ensuring there is no bias in what a family is, in having the service delivered in community venues rather than an alcohol service.

8.4.4. The contract specifications clearly set out the supplier's responsibilities under equalities legislation, including a requirement to have in place up to date equalities policies and to ensure that the service is accessible to all sections of the community.

8.4.5. The contractor's compliance with equalities legislation will continue to be quality assured through regular contract monitoring and service review.

9. Use of Appendices

9.2. Appendix 1 breakdown of the funding allocation.

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.2. Not Applicable

Appendix 1

Total cost over 3 years – categories

74% Staff costs (including on-costs)	£469,266
6% Conferences and training	£40,000
3% Consultation workshops and support	£20,000
4% Resources for practitioners	£26,500

1% Parental conflict counselling	£7,020
2% Family & Children's activities	£14,200
2% Peer support work	£15,700
6% Management, overheads, data collection (paid to delivery partners)	£40,436
TOTAL	£633,122

Total contracted costs over 3 years - Partner

Adfam	£130,569
Anchor	£231,527
Blenheim CDP	£267,026
Total partners	£629,122