

Report for: Cabinet Member Signing – 1 December 2022

Title: Haringey Family Hubs Programme

Report Authorised by: Ann Graham, Director of Children’s Services

Lead Officer: Jackie Difolco, Assistant Director for Early Help, Prevention, and SEND

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/ Non Key Decision: Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

2.1 This report recommends accepting grant of up to £3,768,000 from the Department of Education and Department of Health and Social Care to implement the Family Hubs Programme in Haringey. Accepting grant funding will enable the implementation of the programme as described in the report and the development of four new Family Hubs for children and young people aged 0 – 19 and their families.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

Not applicable.

3. Recommendations

The Cabinet Member for Children, Schools, and Families is recommended:

- 3.1 In accordance with Contract Standing Order 16.02 and Contract Standing Order 17.1, to approve the acceptance of grant funding from the Department of Education, the terms of which are summarised at section 6 of the report.
- 3.2 To delegate authority to agree the final grant documentation and implementation plan to the Director of Children’s Services, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools, and Families.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1 The council is committed to developing a Locality Model that is needs led, responding to resident demand, providing multi agency services that are accessible locally. The Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme aligns well with this objective and will provide necessary funding to help support, design and establish local family hubs.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 Local Authorities can decide not to accept any offer of grant from the Department from Education and Department of Health and Social Care. However, in doing so, this would prevent the Council from being able to implement a locality model which is a key objective within our partnership strategies: Haringey Early Help Strategy and Haringey Early Years Strategy. Therefore, this option was not considered viable.

6. Background information

6.1 Haringey is one of 75 upper tier local authorities eligible for government funding to deliver Start for Life and Family Hub Services over the next three financial years. There is £300 million committed to the programme.

6.2 Local authorities participating in the programme have to be the lead agency and will be expected to deliver against **ALL** the following components in their delivery model, with funding attached to each of these elements.

- Create a network of welcoming family hubs that are for children and young people aged 0 – 19 physically, virtually and via outreach.
- Publish a start for life offer
- Evidenced based parenting programmes
- Infant-parent mental health support
- Breast feeding support
- Accessible information confident and competent multi agency workforce, data, evaluation and evidence of impact and robust leadership

6.3 The Department for Education has defined the list of core services that the 75 local authorities receiving funding will be expected to deliver within their family hub network. Services will be received either physically or in-person in a family hub, accessed through the family hub but delivered elsewhere, or delivered via a virtual offer.

6.4 Services in scope include, reducing parental conflict, debt and welfare support, mental health services, substance misuse support, youth services, housing support, SEND support and Start for Life universal services. A full list of service expectations is available here: [Family Hub Service Expectations \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk).

6.5 We have now received indicative funding information as well as more detail on expectations for authorities who engage in the programme. The programme funding is calculated from two streams, a flat rate for all authorities and an element based on relative population size. The council has acknowledged the invitation letter and has completed a return of ‘in principle’ interest although this does not formally commit us to participate in the programme.

6.6 The indicative funding for Haringey is outlined in the table below:

2022-23	2023-24		2024-2025		TOTAL	
	LOWER	HIGHER	LOWER	HIGHER	LOWER	HIGHER
908,000	1,473,000	1,555,000	1,239,000	1,304,000	3,620,000	3,768,000

6.7 The expectation from the programme is that the hubs are developed with the following funding distribution. The distribution of funding has been rounded to one decimal place. The sum of percentages across six strands may not total 100% due to this rounding. The funding distribution has been calculated using the lower ranges that we are expected to receive.

STRAND	Percentage allocation
Family Hub Programme Spend	19
Family Hub Capital Spend	4.8
Parenting Support	16

Home Learning Environment	8.8
Parent- Infant Relationships and Perinatal Mental Health	31.5
Infant Feeding Support	16.3
Publishing Start for Life Offer and Parent Carer Panels	3.5

Programme Expectations

6.8 Along with the funding, a Family Hub and Start for Life programme guide has been issued, setting out the vision and objectives of the programme. There is a requirement to develop a delivery plan, setting out how we will deliver the programme expectations and how we will improve outcomes for babies, children, families and reduce inequalities in outcomes, experiences and access to services.

6.9 The plan will need to reflect the importance of early years, with reference to 1001 critical days, whilst also evidencing how we will deliver a whole family agenda. The impact of COVID 19 and measures to reduce the issues identified will also need to be documented. The programme of work will need to evidence joined up and enhanced service delivery, with partners.

6.10 The guidance provides minimum and go further expectations for the programme and it is likely that these will be linked to lower and higher funding bands. These expectations are clearly laid out in the guide, enabling us to benchmark our current position and develop a plan for delivery against the expected outcomes.

6.11 There are also a number of additional minimum expectations that must be committed to. These include appointed, named local leads for the programme and adopting any central government banding. There will also be data and evaluation expectations.

6.12 A summary of key requirements outlined in the terms and conditions of the grant include:

- Areas must deliver all of the minimum expectations and open Family Hubs in first half of 2023. There is no detail relating to the number of hubs that are required but it is Haringey’s intention to create four Family Hubs, linked to the emerging locality model. The first hub is planned to be at the Triangle Children Centre by July 2023.
- Areas have to achieve all minimum expectations by Mar 25.
- Each programme element has an age range, the vast majority are for children aged 0 – 1 with the exception of the Family Hubs element which is for children and young people aged 0 – 19 and their families.
- Commissioning of workforce development support should consider the Supporting Families Early Help System Guide and the commissioning guidance for the Healthy Child Programme.
- Areas can use the funding to employ staff to deliver services directly.
- Areas must set out the impact of funding and the difference it will make in delivering local support and services
- Co-location, data sharing, case management system and a team around the family approach with one Lead Professional needs to be in place
- Integration between children, adults and health with an interface with Integrated Care strategy, Health and Well Being strategy and national Supporting Families agenda.

- Areas need to develop a local needs assessment using part of the development element of the grant in year one.

6.13 Refer to the sign up form attached as Appendix One: Family Hubs and Start for Life Sign Up Form which is also available online here:

[Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme - Sign-Up Form.docx \(live.com\)](#)

6.14 Following confirmation of successful sign up to the programme, a delivery plan for implementation is required for submission by mid-December. To support the development of this plan, stakeholder workshop for professionals, children, young people and families is scheduled to take place on the 15 November, 2022. These workshops will enable stakeholders to hear more about the programme, consider what our data is telling us and influence how the programme should be delivered in Haringey. Governance arrangements have been established to provide robust scrutiny and oversight of this programme with key stakeholders represented, including parents and carers.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

7.1 The Family Hubs programme is aligned with the priorities within Haringey's Early Help Strategy, Haringey's SEND Strategy and the 'Borough Plan – Priority 2 (People)' specifically:

- Happy childhood: all children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up feeling safe and secure in their family, networks, and communities
- Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future
- All adults are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, with dignity, staying active and connected in their communities

8. Statutory Officer Comments

8.1 Finance

8.1.1 This report is seeking to agree outline grant funding of up to £3.768m from the Department of Education for the Family Hubs Programme. Further agreement is sought to delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families, to agree the final terms and conditions.

8.1.2 The Family Hubs Programme grant of up to £3.768m supports existing council policies and will provide crucial capital, operational revenue and programme costs to establish four Family Hub centres. The award of the grant is expected in December 2022 and the funding to cover part of 2022/23 through to 2024/25.

8.1.3 There is a risk that costs will be incurred and not be chargeable to the grant funding. This will be mitigated by close financial monitoring of committed and actual expenditure against grant funded outcomes. There is a further risk that funding will not continue in whole or in part following on from 2025/26. This will be addressed once future funding becomes clearer through a service review and the MTFS planning process.

8.2 Legal

- 8.2.1 The Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of the report.
- 8.2.2 In accordance with Contract Standing Order 16.02 and Contract Standing Order 17.1 the Cabinet Member having the relevant portfolio responsibilities has authority to approve the recommendations in this report.
- 8.2.3 In order to receive the grant from the Department of Education the Council will be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). If required Legal Services can advise on the terms of the MoU.
- 8.2.4 The Head of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) sees no legal reasons preventing the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families from approving the recommendations in the report.

8.3 Procurement

Strategic Procurement has been consulted in the preparation of this report, there are no immediate procurement ramifications. Procurement will, however, support the commissioning of various elements of programme delivery where appropriate

8.4 Equality

- 8.4.1 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and those people who do not
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 8.4.2 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex, and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status apply to the first part of the duty. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.
- 8.4.3 The decisions in this report are designed to accept a grant from the Department for Education and Department for Health and Social Care, which will put in place appropriate financial arrangements to support the implementation of the Family Hubs Programme.
- 8.4.4 This decision is likely to positively impact children and young people aged 0 – 19 and their families as the funding will help to increase resources to develop four Family Hubs and a multi-agency offer that is accessible locally responding to the communities needs.

8.4.5 The Early Help strategy and SEND strategy recognises that children and young people are affected differently according to age, gender, and socio-economic background and as such the strategies and the programme intend to ensure that the specific inequalities which affect these groups and that these actions are accountable. There are no negative impacts on those with protected characteristics expected from this decision.

8.4.6 To support the development of the delivery plan for implementation, a stakeholder and consultation workshop is planned with professionals and families in November to influence the plan. Work is underway to ensure that the stakeholders are representative of their communities, with a full equality impact assessment to be completed to fully consider any implications with mitigation.

8.4.7 Final recommendations of what is included in the delivery plan will be consulted on and approved of via key agency partners in the Family Hub Implementation Group.

9. Use of appendices

- Appendix One: Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme sign up form
- Further background information on the Family Hubs Programme can be accessed here: [Family hubs and start for life programme: local authority guide - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/family-hubs-and-start-for-life-programme-local-authority-guide)

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Not applicable

