

Report

Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	27 October 2020
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources) Executive Director (Health and Social Care) Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Community Mental Health Support for Children and Young People
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ provide an update on developments and funding in relation to Children and Young People's Community Mental Health Support (CYPCMHS) and on the governance of the CYPCMHS within South Lanarkshire Council
- ♦ seek approval for the recruitment of posts to roll out the developments and future commissioning for community mental health interventions

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the governance arrangements of the CYPCMHS programme be endorsed; and
- (2) that the proposal to establish, recruit and ring fence the 2 posts detailed in section 5 of the report, be approved

3. Background

- 3.1. In 2019/2020 the Scottish Government allocated £2 million for councils across Scotland to enable them to prepare to implement community mental health and wellbeing services for children and young people. A Framework developed by the Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme Board was issued to councils setting out the distribution of the £2 million. The Framework describes the kind of support that is required and how this is expected to fit within existing mental health supports from universal services and clinical care, with an emphasis on early intervention.
- 3.2. In June 2020, a report was drafted by Scottish Government officials for the joint Scottish Government Settlement and Distribution Group (SDG). Initially intended for April 2020, the report had been delayed due to COVID-19 and the pausing of normal business by both Scottish Government and local authorities.
- 3.3. The Scottish Government agreed to distribute £2 million equally between local authorities, £62.5K per local authority, for use by local collaborative partnerships for planning, development, programme and change management costs. Collaborative

partnerships refers to either Community Planning Partnerships or Children's Services Partnership groupings set up by Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs).

The expectation is that local partnerships will bring together those with a key interest to collaborate on this work and who are best placed locally to take this work forward. This may generally include, but is not limited to, children's services; social work; education including educational psychology; the NHS including CAMHS; primary care and community and school nursing as well as the Third Sector. During this initial planning period, the Scottish Government's expectation is that the £2 million funding provided would be used as appropriate locally in planning and preparation, for example this may be to support a post with capacity to take this work forward.

- 3.4. South Lanarkshire Council has received £62.5K as part of the initial funding to create a post. The initial tasks will be to undertake a consultation exercise and scoping of local needs and identify a CYP Mental Health Strategy for the area.
- 3.5. A further £15 million per annum, will be available from financial year 2020/2021 with South Lanarkshire due to receive circa £800K, however, this funding will only be paid as part year costs due to the delay caused by COVID-19. It is anticipated that this funding will be identified towards the end of the year for local authorities. Full year costs will be available thereafter.
- 3.6. The aim of the funding is to establish early intervention initiatives and programmes for young people and their carers, as well as targeted intensive interventions and programmes for the most vulnerable individuals, aged 5 to 24 years and 26 years for care experienced young people.

4. Governance

- 4.1. There are clear priority areas of work and, for the programme to be truly inclusive, it must make strong links with other partnership forums other than the Children's Services Partnership. There are strong connections to the priorities of the Corporate Parenting Steering Group, Community Justice Partnership and the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership. The support for early years and parenting programmes to support parents as well as counselling services within schools are also clear connections.
- 4.2. The governance of the programme will be through the Getting it Right for South Lanarkshire Children's Services Strategy Group. This is the children's services partnership that reports to the Community Planning Partnership. The group will oversee the initiative and will create a partnership steering group as a sub-group of the strategy group, which will be chaired by the proposed new Senior Educational Psychologist who will oversee and manage the programme, as detailed in section 5 of this report.
- 4.3. The steering group will report to the strategy group which in turn will report to the CPP. The Scottish Government have identified a Service Framework with the priorities to be addressed at a local level. The requirements for a 6 monthly Scottish Government return in relation to the spend and outcomes of the programme are yet to be developed, but will be a core feature of the governance arrangements.
- 4.4. It is proposed to recruit a Senior Educational Psychologist within Education Resources to lead this programme on behalf of the Council and the Partnership. They will chair the Steering Group and be responsible for ensuring that the focus remains on supporting children and young people through early intervention and specially targeted support in a community setting as well as monitoring against set milestones and in

complying with need to complete national returns. It is also proposed that a Planning and Development Officer be employed to support this post.

- 4.5. There is a requirement that the programme is community facing with engagement with children at community level. It is, therefore, proposed to create the post of Planning and Development Officer within Social Work Resources to support the Senior Educational Psychologist as the programme lead, to engage with children and relevant community groups. There will be future commissioning of community resources as the programme develops and this post will support the monitoring and returns of the successful groups.
- 4.6. As the Steering Group develops, and following a scoping and strategic needs analysis, a project plan will be established in relation to a commissioning strategy.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. The proposal is to recruit 1 FTE Senior Educational Psychologist and 1 FTE Planning and Development Officer. It is proposed that these posts are recruited to on a permanent basis due to the commitment of recurring funding that will be ringfenced for this programme.

Post	Existing Number of Posts (FTE)	Proposed Number of Posts (FTE)	Grade	SCP Range	Hourly Rate	Annual Salary	Gross Cost inc on costs 30.3%
Senior Educational Psychologist (Education Resources)	0	1	1	SNCT		£62,787	£81,811
Planning and Development Officer (Social Work Resources)	0	1	Grade 3 Level 2-4	63 - 74	£18.08-£21.25	£32,994 - £38,779	£42,991 - £50,529

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Funding for the posts will be from the national £15 million commitment with circa £800K earmarked for South Lanarkshire with part year costs identified for 2020/2021.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no Climate Change, Sustainability or Environmental implications in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. There is a risk that not progressing the recruitment of the posts and the development of a strategy will see poor outcomes for the children and young people of South Lanarkshire. The mental health and wellbeing of children and young people being the central focus of this programme.
- 8.2. There are no other issues associated with this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy, or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. Consultation has taken place with the Trade Unions and other stakeholders in regard to the recommendations contained within this report.

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Executive Director (Health and Social Care)

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Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

5 October 2020

- ◆ **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**
- ◆ focused on people and their needs
- ◆ working with and respecting others
- ◆ accountable, effective, efficient, and transparent
- ◆ ambitious, self-aware and improving
- ◆ raise educational achievement and attainment

Previous References

- ◆ none

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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