

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
SUBJECT:	FAMILY HUBS - FUNDING
DATE OF DECISION:	13 SEPTEMBER 2022
REPORT OF:	COUNCILLOR DR PAFHEY CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND LEARNING

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director Children and Learning	
	Name:	Robert Henderson	Tel: 023 8083 4899
Author:	E-mail:	Robert.henderson@southampton.gov.uk	
	Title	Head of Service – Early Help and Prevention	
	Name:	Dan Buckle	Tel: 023 8083 3995
	E-mail:	Dan.buckle@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY						
Not applicable						
BRIEF SUMMARY						
Southampton has been identified as one of 75 Local Authorities who are eligible for additional funding to support the establishment of a ‘start for life’ offer and family hub network in the City.						
Southampton City Council has been identified as one of seventy-five Local Authorities able to bid for funding to support the development of a start for life/Family Hub service in the City.						
Start for life is a commitment to delivering support to families from conception to the age of two to ensure that all children have the best start to life possible. Focus on support with breastfeeding, perinatal mental health and parent-infant relationships are essential elements to a sound start for life offer. Family Hubs are a place-based way of joining up locally in the planning and delivery of support to families. Family hubs offer support to families of children with all ages, 0-19 or up to 25 for families with children with special educational needs and disabilities. Family hubs incorporate the start for life offer.						
Indicative funding outlined below:						
22-23	23-24		24-25		Total	
Total	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
£821,000	£1,390,000	£1,462,000	£1,168,000	£1, 225,000	£3,379,000	£3,508,000
For the duration of the project, which runs until March 2025, there is not a cost implication for Southampton City Council. However; If, as part of the project delivery, we are able to demonstrate a positive impact leading to a reduced reliance on early help and social care services it may be that a further spend to save investment is proposed.						

RECOMMENDATIONS:	
(i)	To confirm the Council's participation in the programme and accept the funding as set out in paragraph 13 of the report.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	This will enable us to develop and deliver better services to families in Southampton.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	Do not sign up to the programme and do not accept the funding. It is proposed that this alternative is rejected as engaging in the programme and acceptance of the associated funding will improve services and support for families in Southampton resulting in better outcomes for children.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	<p>Southampton has been identified as one of 75 Local Authorities who are eligible for additional funding to support the establishment of a 'start for life' offer and family hub network in the City.</p> <p>Start for life is a commitment to delivering support to families from conception to the age of two to ensure that all children have the best start to life possible. Focus on support with breastfeeding, perinatal mental health and parent-infant relationships are essential elements to a sound start for life offer. Family Hubs are a place-based way of joining up locally in the planning and delivery of support to families. Family hubs offer support to families of children with all ages, 0-19 or up to 25 for families with children with special educational needs and disabilities. Family hubs incorporate the start for life offer.</p>
4.	The service development requirements are broken into six streams. They consist of minimum requirements which must be met, and 'go further' options of which we must achieve 'some' – to be determined in agreement with the DLUC at the point of signing up to the programme.
5.	<p>Streams:</p> <p>1) Parenting Support</p> <p>The parenting support package should consist of provision for new and expectant parents which helps make the transition to parenthood as smooth as possible, and which stresses the importance of sensitive, responsive caregiving. This should include both universal provision and some more targeted programmes available for parents/carers with further needs.</p>
6.	<p>2) Parent-Infant Relationships and Perinatal mental Health Support</p> <p>The funding for parent–infant relationships and perinatal mental health support is for parents / carers with mild-moderate mental health needs or who would benefit from universal parent-infant support. Parents should be seamlessly connected to all services in the expectations via their family hub. In practice, there may be some overlap in support for parenting, perinatal mental health, and parent–infant relationships within a family hub. See Annex I for further guidance on the perinatal mental health and parent–infant relationship support</p>
7.	3) Early Language and Home Learning Environment

	The funding for the early language and the HLE service strand will be used to implement targeted, evidence-based interventions that train practitioners to support parents with the HLE. This will support educational recovery and the school readiness of children who were babies during the pandemic.										
8.	<p>4) Infant Feeding Support</p> <p>The funding for infant feeding support will be used to promote breastfeeding and support parents to meet their infant feeding goals. There is limited evidence of the impacts and effectiveness of specific infant feeding services and interventions; nevertheless, it is clear that multicomponent strategies are the most effective way to increase breastfeeding levels. The minimum expectations and 'go further' options have been developed on that basis and there will be flexibility to tailor services according to local need.</p>										
9.	<p>5) Parent Carer panels</p> <p>The funding for parent/carer panels will be used to establish parent/carer group(s) to support co-production and co-design of family hub services.</p>										
10.	<p>6) Publish Start for Life Offer</p> <p>To create and publish a start for life offer including digital and hard copy versions.</p>										
11.	<p>There are three elements of reporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme delivery returns • Financial returns • Management information 										
12.	<p>Programme delivery returns are required quarterly – this will be a report regarding updates on progress against our delivery plan and milestones in programme progress. The financial returns will be required twice a year; an annual statement of grant usage at the end of the year confirming that expenditure was in line with the purposes specified in the grant determination letter; and interim statement of grant usage detailing financial spend per programme stream. Management Information returns are required 'at regular intervals' (to be determined) with some elements collected quarterly. The information required relates to the service provided i.e staff employed, families worked with as well as activity undertaken in each programme stream.</p> <p>The first tranche of funding is received on sign up to the programme and further payments are made at the end of each financial year subject to compliance with the requirements of the programme.</p>										
13.	22-23	23-24		24-25		Total					
	Total	Lower Range	Upper Range	Lower Range	Upper Range	Lower Range	Upper Range				
	£821,000	£1,390,000	£1,462,000	£1,168,000	£1,225,000	£3,379,000	£3,508,000				
14.	<p>Funding allocation is distributed as follows:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 70%;">Strand</th> <th style="width: 30%;">%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Family Hubs Programme Spend</td> <td>19%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							Strand	%	Family Hubs Programme Spend	19%
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	Family Hubs Capital Spend	5%
	Parenting Support	16%
	Home Learning Environment	8%
	Parent-Infant Relationships and Perinatal Mental Health	31%
	Infant Feeding Support	17%
	Publishing Start for Life Offer and Parent/Carer Panels	4%

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

- | | |
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| 15. | Any capital and revenue costs associated with the implementation will be met by the funding received. |
| 16. | For the duration of the project, which runs until March 2025, there is not a cost implication for Southampton City Council. However, If, as part of the project delivery, we are able to demonstrate a positive impact leading to a reduced reliance on early help and social care services it may be that a further spend to save investment is proposed. i.e – If it can be evidenced that providing pro-active early help services via a family hub network reduces demand on more costly statutory social work services, they may be a case for re-distribution of funding from Statutory Social Work in to Early Help. |

Property/Other

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| 17. | None. |
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LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

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| 18. | S1.Localism Act 2011 (general power of competence) allows a local authority to do anything necessary for the delivery of its functions and powers. There are no statutory restrictions or impediments preventing the use of the power in this matter and the programme set out in the report delivers the Council's statutory social care functions and responsibilities as set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 (statutory guidance). |
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Other Legal Implications:

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| 19. | The delivery of the programme is subject to compliance with the Equalities Act 2010 and contributes to the Council's adherence to s.149 (Public Sector Equality Duty) with programmes implemented to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, foster good relation and advance equality of opportunity between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not. |
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RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

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| 20. | There is a risk that we will not be compliant with the requirements of the programme and therefore not receive funding for years two and three resulting in un-costed financial commitments and reputational damage. |
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POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
21.	These proposals support the delivery of the health and well-being strategy and the city's commitment to investment in pro-active and preventative early help for families in the City.

KEY DECISION?	Yes
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices	
1.	ESIA

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None.
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	Yes
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Data Protection Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None.