

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 10 April 2019	Meeting Name: Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Adult Care
Report title:		Continuation of grant arrangements for services that are in scope of the Community Hubs Development	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All Wards – Older People, Carers, Adults with a Learning Disability and Adults with a Physical Disability	
From:		David Quirke-Thornton Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Adult Care agree a continuation of the current grant arrangements for a period of one year from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and agrees in principle to a further two month extension from 1 April 2020 to 31 May 2020, should this be required to the provider organisations delivering a range of information, advice and preventative services to residents across the Borough and who are in scope of the development work of the Community Hubs. The need for an extension will be dependent upon the length of the negotiation phase of the procurement process, which will shortly be initiated.
2. The total sum of this extension inclusive of the two month extension is £742,758 for Older Peoples Services and £257,417 for Disability Services.
3. The continuation of the current arrangements will ensure alignment with the planned commencement date for the Older Peoples Hub and All Age Disability Hub
4. That the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Adult Care, agrees the cessation of grant funding for the Life Long Family Links Service from 1 July 2019, subject to a well managed transition process of 3 months.
5. The Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Adult Care notes that this proposal is recommended by the Better Care Fund Planning Group made up of officers of the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) following a review of the Better Care Fund (BCF) programme to continue funding in this area for 2019/20.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

6. The services and provider organisations that are currently funded through grants, as part of the Better Care Fund (BCF) are as follows:

Older People:

- Age UK Information and Advice
- Age UK Safe and Independent Living Team (SAIL)
- Blackfriars Settlement
- Link Age Southwark
- Southwark Pensioners Centre
- Time and Talents

People with a Disability:

- Southwark and Lambeth Mencap
- Southwark Disablement Association
- Leonard Cheshire
- Lifelong Family Links

7. The current grant arrangements are due to expire on 31 March 2019. It is proposed, with the exception of Life Long Family Links that all providers continue to be grant funded for a further year from 1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020 on their current grant allocation.
8. As also set out in paragraph 2 above' that approval be given for a further 2 months of funding from 1 April 2020 – 31 May 2020, in the event that the negotiation phase of the procurement process takes longer than is currently planned.
9. These service providers are based in various locations across the Borough and are delivering a range of information and advice, wellbeing and social interaction services which support early intervention and prevention, across key BCF themes, namely; Theme 4 – 'Prevention - I can access resources in the community that help me and my carers'
10. The current funding for these services will be used to fund, the new Older People's and All Age Disability Community Hubs model, when they go live in the spring of 2020.
11. The commissioning of the new Community Hubs for Older People and People with a Disability has been managed through a structured Programme approach. The programme has been overseen by a Programme Board, chaired by the Assistant Director for Children, Adults and Families.
12. The delivery of the programme has been supported and driven by six work streams which have focused on key areas of the Programme.
13. Work has included some very close and dedicated work with incumbent providers to understand their service offers, identify gaps and to understand where things have and haven't been working well in order to learn from these.
14. Work has also been undertaken with the wider provider market across Southwark, to understand the broader market landscape and opportunities for market stimulation, development and shaping.
15. Commissioners have also been working over the last year to develop key links across the wider health and social care system, in order to ensure greater

alignment, identify opportunities for collaboration and to reduce the risk of duplication.

16. Officers have ensured as part of their work that they have engaged with service users, carers and 'front line staff' and have sought to engage as far as possible with citizens that the Council may not routinely speak to. This has been achieved through working with Southwark's community anchor organisations amongst others.
17. The culmination of this work has led to the procurement strategy of the new Community Hubs model, which is due to commence shortly. The procurement route agreed by Cabinet was a Competitive Procedure with Negotiation. This commences in April 2019 and will conclude in September 2019. Following the governance and approvals process it is expected that contract award will take place in January 2020 and will be followed by a 3 month mobilisation period.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

18. Most of these services that provide important early intervention and preventative support, are valued by the people who use them and given the Council's focus on developing a Community Hub model, maintaining continuity and the stability of these providers during the procurement process will be important.
19. A significant change of arrangements at this critical time may have a destabilising effect that may impact on the levels of demand that the Council experiences, as well as have a negative impact on the people who use these services.
20. Over the last year, most providers have been actively engaged with commissioners, have been keen to develop their offers to become more "hub ready" and are delivering value for money services. Providers have engaged with working on some 'test and learn' initiatives to test and measure some benefits of colocation, and working more flexibly in preparation for the Community Hub Model.
21. There is however one provider which officers, having reviewed their service are of the view does not deliver valuable and tangible positive outcomes for service users, nor does it offer value for money. The provider in question is Life Long Family Links (LLFL). This provider despite encouragement and input from commissioners has not been engaged and has failed to attend the majority of meetings that were organised with providers. They have also not been forthcoming with performance information.
22. The review has concluded that the organisation are currently supporting only 12 service users; indeed the number of service users that they support has reduced by 50% since 2015/16. The average age of service users is 60 years old, 50% of these service users are Care Act eligible and are also receiving a care package of around 11 hours per week. One of these service users also has a package of specialist mental health support for 3 hours per week. Three of the 12 individuals are not known to ASC and three residents received short term services or support only. This service is currently receiving funding of £45,000 per annum. Given this analysis it is proposed that the grant funding for this service ceases and the released funds reinvested in the Hubs.
23. In terms of the transition of support; for those individuals that are known to ASC, it is proposed that commissioners work with their respective social workers to

identify suitable alternatives where necessary from the wide range of services and organisations that support older people, disabled people, and people with mental health needs across the borough. For those not known to ASC it is proposed that contact is made with these individuals to advise them of the service closure and to offer a range of alternatives. It is recommended that in order to reduce the risk of adverse publicity, the provider and service users are given three months notice of this change, including a clear plan about how this will be managed. In light of this, 3 months apportioned funding of the grant to LLFL for the first Quarter of 2019/20 is recommended to manage the impact of withdrawal of services, which would be an additional £11,250 for quarter 1 of 2109/20.

Policy implications

24. The Care Act 2014 places a duty on local authorities to promote individual wellbeing, establish preventative services, provide information and advice about care and support, and provide appropriate support for adults and their carers. All of the services which are being recommended for a continuation of their grant arrangements for a further year support this key requirement.
25. Southwark's Vision for Adult Social Care is to deliver well-coordinated personalised health and social care services to prevent, delay or reduce the need for care and support to be able to live as independent lives as possible. The development of a Community Hubs model supports this vision and is a key strategic priority for the Council.
26. The recommended continuation of these services for a further year during the procurement of the Community Hubs supports Council Plan commitments including A Healthier Life and A Vibrant Southwark. It also supports the Fairer Future Procurement Strategy commitments; value for money, and health for all, and the need for an age-friendly Borough.

Community impact statement

27. The continuation of these services will have a positive impact in relation to the groups identified as having a "protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 and the Councils' equality agenda: Race, Gender, Age, Disability, Faith and Religion, Sexuality, Gender re assignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership and Child Care and Pregnancy. These services are broad ranging and inclusive.
28. The cessation of grant funding of this service may have an impact for LLFL however; Southwark's contribution forms about 10% of their overall income. The key focus of this organisation is the provision of children and young peoples' services in Lambeth. Support will be offered through Community Southwark to assist LLFL to explore other opportunities for funding should this be required.

Resource implications

29. The grant will be managed through current staffing resources within the Children, Adults and Families Commissioning Team.
30. Monitoring of the grant associated with these services is based on the conditions of the grant funding which includes evidence of service delivery and of outcomes being met. These will continue to be monitored during the coming year.

Legal Implications

31. Please see the legal comments below.

Financial Implications

32. The 2019/20 proposed grant allocation for these services is set out below:

Provider	Service delivered	Cost 2019/20
Age UK	Community Support Services	£178,300
Age UK	Safe and Independent Living Service	£107,000
Age UK	Footcare and Handyperson's Service	£33,000
Blackfriars Settlement	Wellbeing and Social Interaction	£58,550
Southwark Pensioners Centre	Information, Advice and Wellbeing Services	£78,300
LinkAge Southwark	Social Interaction	£123,250
Time and Talents	Community Support Services	£58,250
Older People	Total	£636,650
Southwark and Lambeth Mencap	Community Wellbeing Support	£41,000
Leonard Cheshire	Community Support Services	£90,000
Southwark Disablement Association	Community Support Services	£80,000
Life Long Family Links	Social Interaction	£11,250 (Q1 2019/20 only)
Disability Services	Total	£222,250

33. The grant payments listed above are fully funded from BCF Scheme 18 2019/20 allocation for voluntary sector preventative services.

34. As the grant allocations are a fixed sum the expenditure is controlled and does not pose a risk with regards to overspend in 2019-20.

Consultation

35. As previously stated commissioners have been engaging with people who use services and their carers to understand their views of the services and to identify gaps and areas for improvements. This will continue over the next year.

36. Commissioners have kept Adults Development Commissioning Group (ACDG) updated and informed about the progress with the development of the Community Hubs to ensure as a health and social care system, there is a shared

view and awareness of developments, interrelationships and interdependencies.

37. Commissioners have also linked and worked closely with the Local Care Network and the CCG to ensure that they are fully aware of the work that is taking place and to identify opportunities for collaboration etc.
38. Consultation will continue with key stakeholders to establish any further impacts as a result of discontinuing our grant funding of Life Long Family Links.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Head of Procurement

39. Not applicable.

Director of Law and Democracy

40. This report seeks approval of the award of further grant funding to the providers outlined in paragraph 6 above.
41. The decision to approve the report recommendations is one which is expressly reserved to the Cabinet Member under Part 3D of the council Constitution. The proposed further grant awards are consistent with the council's statutory duties and powers (notably the Public Sector Equality Duty imposed by the Equality Act 2010) and with corporate policy, in particular, the Fairer Future Promises.

Strategic Director of Finance and Governance

42. Not applicable

Legislative requirement

43. Not applicable.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Gateway 1 Report	Children, Adults and Families Commissioning, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Jane Love 020 7525 54594
Link: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/g6125/Public%20reports%20pack%20Tuesday%2024-Jul-2018%2016.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Service description and performance data

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	David Quirke-Thornton, Strategic Director for Children’s and Adults’ Services		
Report Author	Jane Love Programme Manager, Children, Adults and Families Commissioning		
Version	Final		
Dated	10 April 2019		
Key Decision?	No		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Law and Democracy		Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance		Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member		Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team			10 April 2019