

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 17 January 2023	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education
<b>Report title:</b>		Positive Future For Young People Fund 2022/24 – Second Call-Off LGBTQ+ and SEND Provision	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All wards	
<b>From:</b>		(interim) Youth Operations and Commissioning Manager	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education approves the grant funding recommendations for the 'Positive Future for Young People Fund' (Second Call-Off LGBTQ+ and SEND Provision) for the period 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 for the total value of £51,000 as follows:
  - a) A grant of £24,000 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 to Bermondsey Kitchen to provide services to young people with SENDD.
  - b) A grant of £27,000 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 to The METRO Centre Ltd. to provide services to young people who identify with the LGBTQ+.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Youth New Deal

2. The Youth New Deal aims to raise the profile of services in Southwark so that no young person is left behind and puts young people's voices at the heart of service delivery. It was the culmination of months of engagement with young people including the 2020 Youth Review, which consulted over 500 mostly young people.
3. The Youth New Deal was announced at the Council Assembly meeting in February 2021, when it was agreed to commit significant investment (£1m capital funding alongside £500k revenue funding, comprising a mix of both one off funding and ongoing revenue) to enable the delivery of innovative and exceptional services and opportunities for young people in Southwark.
4. The Youth New Deal was the council's response to rising challenges that

young people face. These includes unemployment, mental health issues, and crime – all of which have been exacerbated by Covid and the cost of living crisis, with those under 25 in the UK over twice as likely to have lost their job due to the pandemic as those over 25.

5. The Youth New Deal also recognises that young people have been hit with a growing mental health crisis, with one in four in the UK currently feeling 'unable to cope', according to the Prince's Trust. Hundreds of young people have accessed Southwark's new free mental health drop-in service for children and young people, The Nest, since it opened online in April 2021 and physically opened the doors in August 2021

### **Background to this call-off**

6. In November 2021, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education approved the award of grants in the sum of £979,603 under the new 'Positive Future for Young People Fund' grants programme for the period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2024.
7. Details of the background to that award and the outcome of the Commissioning process can be found within the report *Positive Future For Young People Fund 2022/24* which can be found at the following link: <https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7515>
8. Prior to the commencement of the grant programme one of the providers, The Network Inclusion, opted to withdraw. Their proposed project would have provided support for young people with Special Educational Needs, and therefore their withdrawal meant a gap in provision in this area.
9. In June 2022 officers identified a further gap in respect of the provision for young people from, or whom identified, with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans plus (LGBT+) community.
10. In October 2022, and in consultation with the Cabinet Member Children, Young People and Education, it was agreed that officers would undertake a further Positive Futures for Young People Fund commissioning process to identify provision focused on supporting young people with Special Educational Needs and young people from, or whom identified with, the LGBTQ+ community.

### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **PFYPF second call off - Grant Application Process**

11. A two stage application process was followed:

Stage 1 - Online application form via Southwark's Grant Management Software portal.

Stage 2 – Online presentation, this was an opportunity for shortlisted applicants to make a presentation to the Assessment Panel.

12. The PFYPF opportunity went live on the Southwark website on 17 October 2022 and it was also promoted via existing networks and via Community Southwark.
13. To support applicants through the process, two question and answer sessions were held. During these sessions officers answered questions raised by potential applicants.
14. As well as the briefing sessions, applicants were offered one-to-one support to navigate the new programme criteria and application process.
15. Following the closing date (18 November 2022), eight online applications were received. Of these, six were for the provision of the SEND brief and two for the LGBTQ+ brief. Two of the applications were deemed not eligible as they were not properly constituted organisations and their applications did not address the needs of the targeted groups.
16. The remaining six applications were assessed by the panel and all six were invited to an interview in order to talk through their proposals:

SEND provision

- Bermondsey Kitchen
- Rooster Boxing Club
- Docklands Settlement
- Steph Together

LGBTQ+ provision

- The Metro
- Milwall Community Trust

17. The panel reviewed each application form against scoring criteria which can be found in Appendix 1.
18. The panel adopted a 0 (poor) – 5 (excellent) scoring matrix to assess each application.

### **Recommendations for PFYPF grant funding**

19. Following the assessment process officers recommend that the following grant awards be made:
  - a) A grant of £24,000 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 to Bermondsey Kitchen to provide services to young people with SEND.
  - b) A grant of £27,000 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 to The METRO Centre Ltd. to provide services to young people who identify with the LGBTQ+

20. Bermondsey Kitchen are a Community Company Interest which operates out of 9 Market Place, Bermondsey SE16 3UQ. Their proposal is to deliver weekly workshops for young people with Special Educational Needs in healthy nutritional cooking on a budget. Young people will be split into two age groups, 11-18 and 18-24, with the older age group being able to achieve Level 1 Food Preparation and Cooking Course and complete Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Level 1-3 Food Safety courses. Throughout the year 80 young people will benefit from the activity
21. Metro are a well-established organisation who support people from the LGBTQ+. They have operated within Southwark for a number of years delivering support their project Metro Sparks to young people from the LGBTQ+ community. The proposal is to deliver a weekly, youth-led programme of therapeutic, creative, social and skills. This will take place at the London LGBTQ+ Community Centre at SE1 9JH. In addition they will also provide young people with the opportunity to take part on offsite activities, including a winter ball and a summer pride event as well as therapeutic support. At least 42 young people will benefit from the programme throughout the year.

### **Policy framework implications**

22. The commissioning of the PFYPF is directly linked to the council's delivery plan commitment to 'Supporting Families', in particular:

*'Ensure young people have access to positive activities:*

- *Ensuring that wherever residents live in Southwark there are local youth work and sport activities*
  - *Putting our new Southwark Youth Parliament in the driving seat, working with them to set priorities for all funding for youth services, as part of our Youth Deal, so together we can ensure it delivers for every Southwark young person*
23. The objectives will also follow the 'common purpose common cause' outcomes as detailed in Southwark's Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy 2017- 2022:
    - Better partnership working to improve outcomes for residents
    - Improved commissioning and grant-giving to focus on outcomes and be more collaborative, and community-led
    - More resilient communities that are connected and more resourceful.
  24. The commissioning of PFYPF directly links to the Youth New Deal that was agreed on 24 February 2021.
  25. The Youth New Deal also link to the 'Southwark Together' commitment which promises to, *'Commit to root out inequalities by implementing the recommendations from the Southwark Stands Together work against racial*

*inequalities and injustice.* Paragraphs 43 to 45 below expand on this.

## **Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts**

### **Community impact statement**

#### **Community impact statement**

26. There is a legal duty on local authorities to promote equal opportunities, eliminate discrimination and to promote positive community relations.
27. An Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken for the initial call-off PFYPF and no negative impacts have been found (see Appendix 4). This has been reviewed and adjusted as part of this commissioning process.

#### **Health impact statement**

28. One of the main driving forces behind the Youth New Deal programme is to address health inequalities experienced by young people, particularly around mental health.
29. The PFYPF programme affords young people opportunities to become active members of their community, fulfill their potential, improve their development and career prospects and feel heard and valued, which is highly beneficial for mental health and plays a key role in wellbeing. This will lead to higher levels of happiness, boost self-confidence and self-esteem and help connect with others.
30. There are also physical activities and sports being funded within the wider programme, which will provide opportunities for young people to become and stay active and will contribute to their overall physical health.
31. By undertaking this further call-off, it seeks to address the additional inequality experienced by young people from Special Educational Needs and those who identify as being part of the LGBTQ+ community.

#### **Climate change implications**

32. The delivery of services referred to in this report has the potential, like most other service delivery activity, for carbon emissions linked to those activities (i.e. lighting, heating, transport, etc.).
33. Officers will encourage appointed providers to develop and implement sustainability policies that align with the council's climate emergency priorities, as outlined in the council's Climate Strategy.

#### **Legal implications**

34. Please see the concurrent report of the Director of Law and Governance.

#### **Finance implications**

35. The grants for these two organisation will total £51,000 for a one-year period. The sums represent the amounts that previously agreed with Network Inclusion and the existing grant for Metro.
36. These grant allocations will be funded from revenue budgets of £500k per annum in cost code EX531.
37. The actual expenditure against the grant allocations will be monitored and reported on as part of the leisure revenue monitoring process.
38. Staffing and any other costs connected with this recommendation to be contained within existing departmental revenue budgets.

### **Consultation**

39. As noted in paragraph 2, significant consultation and engagement work took place with young people and youth providers as part of the youth review in 2020.
40. In addition, and as stated in paragraphs 8 and 9, in March and July 2021 officers undertook a further consultation by conducting an additional online survey, which was circulated to secondary school pupils in Southwark. This ensured that the Youth New Deal commitment, requiring the council to commission activities and programmes that are informed and shaped by young people's voices, was met.
41. 374 young people responded to the survey. Young people were asked which physical activities, personal development activities, wellbeing activities and workshops/courses they would like to take part in the most. The detailed responses can be found in the previous report.
42. This second call-off has used the information undertaken within these above processes. Unfortunately, due to time constraints and capacity issues it was not possible to undertake any additional consultation for this second call-off, however it is a recommendation that a specific consultation with young people from both the LGBTQ+ community and those with Special Educational Needs is undertaken prior to the re-commissioning of PYFYP funding in April 2024.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

#### **Director of Law and Governance**

43. This report seeks approval of the proposed grant funding allocations as part of the second round of allocations from the new 'Positive Future for Young People Fund' (PFYPF) for the period 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024, as detailed in the Recommendation. The decision to approve the Recommendation is one which is expressly reserved to the Cabinet Member under Part 3D of the council Constitution.

44. The report notes that the PFYPF and the associated grant programme align with the Youth New Deal and other relevant corporate policy in this area. The report also confirms from paragraphs 11 to 18 that a transparent and robust process by which applications for grant funding have been invited and evaluated has been undertaken. Paragraphs 19 to 21 set out the recommendations for grant funding allocations and the details of the recipient organisations.
45. The intention of the Fund is to engage all individuals and groups within the local community by offering the opportunity to apply for funding and to benefit from the projects that arise from the funding allocations. This is consistent with the requirements of the council's statutory duty (the Public Sector Equality Duty/PSED) as prescribed by the Equality Act 2010. Paragraph 27 notes that the Equalities Impact Assessment which had been undertaken for the initial award round in order to ensure and demonstrate compliance with the PSED has been reviewed and updated.
46. The proposed grant funded awards will be regulated by appropriate legal terms and conditions.

**Strategic Director of Finance and Governance (EL22/097)**

47. This report recommends the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to approve the grant funding recommendations for the 'Positive Future for Young People Fund' (Second Call-Off LGBTQ+ and SEND Provision) for the period 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 for the total value of £51,000 (i.e. £24,000 to Bermondsey Kitchen and £27,000 to The METRO Centre Ltd).
48. The strategic director of finance and governance notes that the proposed cost of the recommendations will be contained within the Youth Service's grant budget allocation, as mentioned in the financial implications.
49. Staffing and any other costs connected with this recommendation to be contained within existing departmental revenue budgets.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Youth Service Review Cabinet Report December 2020	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2TZ	Tina Thorley 07599546729
<a href="http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=302&amp;MId=6664&amp;Ver=4">http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=302&amp;MId=6664&amp;Ver=4</a>		

## APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	PFYPF Scoring Chart

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education	
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Toni Ainge, Director of Leisure	
<b>Report Author</b>	Paul Davies, (Interim) Youth Operations and Commissioning Manager	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	8 December 2022	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments Included</b>
Director of Law and Governance	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	Yes	Yes
List other officers here	N/A	N/A
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	21 December 2022	