Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 16 February 2023	Decision Taker: Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	
Report title:		Easter of Food and Fun 2023 grant recommendations		
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All		
From:		Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services		

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. That the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing approve the use of £162,558 for 31 providers identified for the Easter of Food and Fun Holiday Programme as part of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme for 2023. The recommendations are set out in Appendix 1.
- 2. That the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing approve the use of the remaining £25,500 of the Easter grants budget to support providers to make places available for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3. Since 2018, the Department for Education (DfE) has invested in local programmes that deliver healthy meals and fun activities to disadvantaged children during the summer holidays. In summer 2020, they invested £9 million in 17 local authorities, including the Southwark and Lambeth Summer of Food and Fun which took place across the two boroughs and was facilitated by a partnership between Kitchen Social (a Mayor's Fund for London charity), Southwark Council and Lambeth Council.
- 4. The Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme expanded in 2021 enabling all English local authorities to offer free healthy meals and enriching activities to children between the ages of 4 and 16 years old eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM) over the Easter, summer and winter holidays. Towards the end of 2021, the DfE confirmed that the HAF programme will continue to be funded for the 2022 2024 school holidays.
- 5. Southwark Council has been allocated £1,550,610 of grant funding from the DfE to cover the cost of coordinating and delivering the HAF programme over Easter, summer and winter school holidays in 2023. The

majority of this funding will be directly awarded as grant funding to local holiday provision providers to deliver the programme. This grant funding will be paid in two instalments. The first instalment of £1,240,488 was received in April 2023 and the second instalment of up to £310,122 will be received in April 2024, dependent on delivery plans and reports submitted to the Department for Education. This is a similar but slightly higher level of funding than what was allocated to Southwark Council for the 2022 programme. Alongside this funding, £24,000 has been received from Travis Perkins to boost the council's funding for this programme. In total £1,574,610 worth of funding is available for Southwark's 2023 HAF programme.

- 6. For the Easter, the HAF team have budgeted £243,108 to cover the provision of 7,389 places over the holiday period. For the summer and winter, the HAF team have budgeted £1,331,502 to cover provision over the two holiday periods.
- 7. The programme's objectives are to encourage eligible children to:
  - Eat more healthily
  - Be more active
  - Take part in engaging and enriching activities
  - Be safe and not isolated
  - Have greater knowledge of health and nutrition
  - Be more engaged with school and other services
  - Have greater knowledge and awareness of holiday club provision
- 8. The Department for Education also requires that:
  - Provision is inclusive and accessible
  - Provision is offered to all FSM children in the local authority
  - Ideally provision is offered four hours a day, four days a week, for four weeks in the Summer and for one week at Easter and Christmas

#### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

# Easter of Food and Fun grants: assessment and funding recommendations

9. The first funding round of the Southwark HAF 2023 programme is for the Easter holidays and the application process has been shared widely including amongst the Holiday Provision Network, schools, Ofsted-registered out of school settings and prospective providers who have previously expressed an interest in the programme in order to encourage all eligible organisations to apply.

#### Criteria

- 10. The grant criteria are designed to ensure all providers meet the required standards of both Southwark Council and the Department for Education.
- 11. Organisations applying for Easter grant funding are required to meet all the following general and specific criteria.

#### **General criteria**

- Organisations eligible for funding include registered charities, voluntary, community or faith organisations, companies limited by guarantee, Community Interest Companies, Social enterprises, Schools, and Parent Teacher Friends Associations. All organisations are required to run a not-for-profit HAF programme.
- Organisations cannot be funded by another local authority to run HAF provision at the same location they are applying for funding from Southwark council for
- Based in and/or providing services within the London Borough of Southwark
- Operate from fit for purpose premises and show evidence of ability to adapt services during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure they continue to meet the needs of their clients
- Have quality assurance measures in place

#### Specific criteria

- The programme will be free of charge for eligible families
- Providers must include the following in their programmes every day:
  - Food and nutrition skills aimed at improving knowledge and awareness of healthy eating
  - Structured physical activity for at least 60 minutes each day
  - Enriching activities which offer children the opportunities to develop new skills or knowledge or have different experiences
- Hubs must be able to provide at least one meal a day and all food provided, inclusive of snacks, must meet school food standards.
- Providers must be running or linked to an Ofsted-registered child provision if children of 8 years or below are attending (where their parents/carers are not on the premises) for:
  - More than 2 hours per session
  - More than 14 days a year
  - Unless their programme is exempt if the club is registered as an activity-based setting offering no more than two types of activities

#### **Cross-programme criteria**

12. The following criteria have been applied when considering applications to ensure the Easter of Food and Fun programme as a whole is inclusive and caters to the level of need in the borough:

- The Easter programme as a whole has sufficient geographical spread across the borough with a focus on areas of higher need in terms of food insecurity and mapped against the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI). The geographical spread of applicants was checked using Google Maps to ensure all wards within the borough had adequate holiday provision to minimise cold spots.
- The Easter programme as a whole caters to the full age range stipulated by the Department for Education (4-16 year old school children). A particular focus has been placed on 12-16 year olds as previous holiday periods have shown a lack of sufficient provision for and/or engagement with this age group.
- There is sufficient provision available to support eligible children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) requirements.
- Delivery is in line with the "gold standard" model as stipulated by the DfE
  i.e. hubs can deliver provision a minimum of 4 hours a day, 4 days a
  week for 1 week during the Easter holiday period.
- 13. In order to maximise both the engagement with Southwark residents who are the target beneficiaries of the holiday programme and the attendance of programme participants, the following additional selection criteria were applied:
  - Prioritising holiday clubs with evidenced relationships with the target community in the geographical area within Southwark they're requesting funding to operate from.
  - Prioritising Southwark based organisations that identify as Black Asian or ethnic minority led as recommended in the Southwark Stands Together strategy.
  - Prioritising established Food and Fun holiday clubs who have consistently engaged fully with Southwark's holiday programme including engaging with the local community to advertise their programme and maximise attendance, attending provider briefings and being compliant with quality assurance and data collection processes. Parents and communities involved with the programme previously have fed back to the council the importance of continuing to fund established programmes in the same locations where possible to help families access them and children to feel settled quickly, and to enhance cohesion and trust within communities.
  - Prioritising grass roots organisations founded in the areas where the programme's target beneficiaries are based over larger organisations that operate regionally. Evidence from previous delivery has shown this type of organisation to be the most successful at engaging with the target audience and having a wider impact on Southwark communities.

- 14. Providers were asked to provide details of the number of days they can operate over the winter period and how many places they can provide per day. This information was then used to calculate how many places on a holiday programme each hub could make available over the winter period.
- 15. The team have chosen the base grant funding levels based on feedback from previous holiday programmes in Southwark, other local authorities, meal suppliers the team have worked with and the budget available for Easter. The base grant funding level has been set to £22 per child per day. This £22 covers a variety of costs associated with the programme including resources for enriching activities, equipment for physical activities, staffing and administrative costs, nutritional education and healthy meals for participants.
- 16. The applications received for the Easter programme are summarised in the table below:

Total number of applications	42 providers for 60 holiday programmes	
Applications that meet the criteria and have been recommended for funding	45	
Applications that haven't been recommended for funding	15	
Hubs that are able to provide SEND provision	42	
Approximate total number of individual children who will be supported over Easter as estimated by holiday club providers	2,069	
Total number of holiday club places for children over winter being recommend	7,389	
Total amount of grant funding allocated	£188,058	

- 17. Officers have assessed applications based on the criteria stipulated above. Applications need to meet all the required general and specific criteria to be considered for funding. Applications were then assessed as a group to ensure cross-programme criteria were also satisfied. Providers were asked to provide details of the number of days they can operate over the Easter period and how many places they can provide per day. This information was then used to calculate how many places on a holiday programme each hub could make available over the Easter period.
- 18. Due to the number of applications received, the council are unable to fund all places applied for. To ensure the allocation of funding amongst eligible organisations was fair, the following rules were applied to the organisations that applied for funding:

- All individual programmes were recommended funding for a maximum of 4 days over the 2 week holiday period as stipulated by the DfE as the "gold standard" model of HAF provision.
- All individual programmes were capped at 160 places per day per location.
- Programmes from new providers and/or new locations were capped at a maximum of 50 places per day as experience from previous programme cycles has shown it can be a challenge for providers new to the holiday programme to reach their projected numbers.
- Programmes that have previously taken part in Southwark's Food and Fun programme were capped to the number of participants per day that attended previously as evidenced during quality assurance visits to recent programmes and in the monitoring and attendance data from previous programme cycles.
- Holiday clubs with evidenced relationships with the target community in the geographical area within Southwark they plan to operate from were prioritised.
- Returning applicants that have consistently complied with the data collection requirements of the programme and have reached their projected attendance in previous programme cycles were prioritised.
- 19. Based on the feedback received from holiday clubs during previous programme cycles, it was important to increase the minimum base funding level to £22 per child per day in order to help providers run a cost-effective programme bearing in mind the cost of living crisis. Applying the above cut offs and rules enables the council to fund as many eligible providers as possible for up to 4 days of provision, which maximises the number of individual eligible beneficiaries the programme can reach over the Easter period.
- 20. The attached recommended allocations in appendix 1 recommend that 31 applicants are awarded funding because they have met the required criteria, funding these providers enables us to best meet the cross-programme criteria, and the total amount of grant allocation falls within the total allocated budget for Easter.
- 21. Grant funding allocations for each organisation are based on the following information provided in the application form:
  - Number of days their holiday programme will be running over Easter
  - Number of children that providers stipulated they could provide provision for per day

- 22. Applications were received from 15 other holiday programmes. For a number of reasons, they were not recommended for funding. These reasons include:
  - Non-compliance with the data collection requirements of the programme during previous programme cycles
  - Quality assurance visits and monitoring and evaluation data from previous programme cycles showing low attendance figures without providers evidencing their efforts to actively engage the target beneficiaries of the programme
  - Not funding several new clubs geographically close to one another to prevent competition between them whilst prioritising organisations with experience of running successful Food and Fun holiday clubs
  - Prioritising funding holiday clubs that have provided sufficient evidence of their relationship with the target beneficiaries of the programme
  - Prioritising established Food and Fun programmes that have continually achieved high attendance figures over organisations that have had to pull out of the programme due to low registration numbers
  - Prioritising funding holiday clubs that offer SEND provision over those that do not
  - Applications not being received by the required deadline
- 23. The council will not fund organisations that are not compliant with the requirements of the Food and Fun holiday programme including data collection and actively engaging with the target beneficiaries of the programme to reach expected attendance figures.
- 24. Providers will be responsible for ensuring they deliver a COVID-secure holiday programme dependent on the COVID-19 government restrictions and guidance for the winter holidays, including following recommendations for considering group sizes in their settings.
- 25. The Public Health division will support providers to ensure their COVID-19 risk assessments are accurate and up to date, and that the relevant guidance is adhered to.
- 26. 28 providers across 42 programmes have confirmed that they can make places available for children with SEND needs. The holiday programme team have allocated the remaining grants budget for Easter (£25,500) to provide additional funding for those who provide places for children with SEND needs, which is a similar amount of the budget allocated for SEND provision over Easter 2022.
- 27. Once the grant recommendations have been approved and communicated to successful holiday clubs, they will be invited to apply for funding to support children with SEND needs. Applicants will be required to detail:

- the number of individual children they're planning to support
- Whether the children attend mainstream or specialist schools, alongside a list of the specialist schools
- the level of SEND needs their programme can cater for, for example physical access for young people in wheelchairs or providing 1 to 1 or 1 to 4 support for children with more complex needs
- the benefits their programme will offer children with SEND
- what the funding will be used for, for example to hire specialist staff with appropriate experience and qualification or specialist equipment such as sensory activities or software to help engagement
- 28. This budget will be awarded based on the applications made, and previous programme delivery. Programme registration and attendance data and evidence of SEND-specific expenditure is required for providers to receive the full awarded grant, which is an addition to the base grant funding awarded per child. 50% of the SEND grant will be paid before the holiday period and 50% will be paid afterwards following the submission of evidence of SEND-specific expenditure. This funding will be used to support SEND children to access the programme by enabling providers to pay for support workers and specialist equipment. The HAF team will verify the details of children eligible for additional SEND funding with the relevant team in Southwark Council.
- 29. The 31 providers and 45 programmes recommended for funding are well distributed across the borough according to areas of high need and cater to all eligible age groups.
- 30. Full details of the recommended allocations for grant funding can be found in appendix 1.
- 31. To ensure the programme meets the Department for Education standards, Southwark Council will also be directly procuring the following:
  - Take and Make Boxes through Kitchen Social, distributed to children each week. These are healthy recipe-kit boxes that support families to cook nutritious meals together at home, supported with physical recipe cards and online videos. The budget for this is £23,600.
  - Deliveries of fresh fruit from an East Street Market trader to support our providers in offering healthy snacks as part of their programmes. The budget for this is £2,550.

#### **Conditions of Grant Funding**

32. Organisations awarded grant funding are subject to monitoring through the council's Conditions of Grant Funding (COGF). Schedules to these cover the key areas of: governance and employment; finance; employment practices and monitoring and information. In addition to a requirement to comply with these conditions, organisations are subject to an annual monitoring visit, and the monitoring framework includes a

- monitoring checklist, which assesses each of the areas covered within the COGF as well as service delivery.
- 33. Where any significant issues are identified during monitoring which could give rise to a breach in the COGF, the council will write to the relevant organisation and set out what action needs to be taken. In such cases they will be advised that the funding continuation is subject to their taking the necessary remedial action to address concerns. Failure to do so may result in the council taking the appropriate action to terminate the funding by way of a further report.

## **Policy framework implications**

34. The Food and Fun holiday programme directly contributes to Southwark Council's Fairer Future Commitments of tackling health inequalities and ensuring all children have the best start in life by providing children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals with nutritious meals and a safe and enriching environment during the school holidays<sup>1</sup>.

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

#### **Community impact statement**

- 35. The Food and Fun holiday programme intends to provide targeted support to children, young people and families vulnerable to food insecurity to access nutritious food and enriching activities over the school holidays in 2023.
- 36. The 2019 Survey for Londoners highlighted the stark issue of food insecurity in Southwark. 23.5% of people over 16 years and 25.8% of children surveyed were food insecure, equating to approximately 75,000 of residents over 16 years and over 15,000 Southwark children<sup>2</sup>. Food insecurity for both adults and children is worse in Southwark than the London average (21% for adults and 17.5% for children)<sup>2</sup>.
- 37. In 2019, there were clear inequalities that existed within those struggling with food insecurity in Southwark. People of Black ethnicities, people living in social housing, families with dependent children, unemployed or low paid adults, and those in debt were identified as priority groups more vulnerable to food insecurity<sup>2</sup>.
- 38. The pandemic has further exacerbated the issue of food insecurity across the country. The Food Foundation's survey series on the impact of coronavirus on children's food has continually demonstrated that families with children have suffered significantly. Their most recent data published in March 2021 highlighted that 41% of households with children on free school meals reported experiencing food insecurity in the last 6 months,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Southwark Council. 2020. Southwark's Borough Plan 2020-2022. Council Plan Refresh.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Southwark Council. 2021. Household Food Insecurity, Southwark's JSNA.

- equating to four million people including 2.3 million children<sup>3</sup>. Black and mixed ethnicity households with children continue to experience higher levels of food insecurity than their white counterparts<sup>3</sup>.
- 39. The school holidays can be a pressure point for some families because of increased costs (such as food and childcare) and reduced household incomes. For some children, this can lead to a holiday experience gap with children from low income families less likely to access organised out-of-school activities; more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health; and more likely to experience social isolation. COVID-19 is likely to have increased the need for this provision, with more families experiencing reduced household incomes and increased food insecurity.
- 40. The Food and Fun programme intends to benefit a cohort of Southwark's most vulnerable children and young people, contributing to the reduction of health inequalities over the long term. A joint Equalities and Health Impact Assessment was completed for the holiday programme and can be found in appendix 2. This assessment demonstrates that the holiday programme shows no potential for discrimination and the holiday programme team have taken all appropriate opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people with different protected characteristics.

# **Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement**

- 41. The joint Equalities and Health Impact Assessment found in appendix 2 was undertaken in order to assess the need for the provision to be delivered as part of the Food and Fun holiday programme and the cohort of children and families who would be most likely to benefit from it. The holiday programme is anticipated to have positive impacts for all children, young people and families that it reaches.
- 42. Despite the programme being universally advertised to all children eligible for benefits-related free school meals, as illustrated in the joint Equalities and Health Impact Assessment, particular groups are more likely to experience food insecurity and health inequalities than others. For example, children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) needs are more likely to be eligible for free school meals and thus be at a greater risk of food insecurity than other students. Alongside this, in 2019 a higher proportion of black residents were vulnerable to food insecurity compared to white residents.
- 43. The Food and Fun programme specifically targets families vulnerable to food insecurity in Southwark through recruiting hubs across the borough with a focus on areas with higher levels of deprivation as well as programmes that deliver SEND provision across eligible age groups.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Food Foundation. 2021. The Impact of Covid-19 on Household Food Security.

These areas of high socio-economic disadvantage also have a higher concentration of black residents. It's anticipated that the programme will continue to have a positive impact on this community as evidence suggests a higher proportion of children and young people of black ethnicity will be eligible for the programme and the programme locations have been mapped to ensure they're in areas of high deprivation. The Holiday Programme team works with the wider Public Health team to advertise the programme directly to asylum seeker and refugee families based in temporary accommodation who may not otherwise be reached by this programme.

To ensure the holiday programme is an attractive offer to the diversity of prospective participants, a variety of holiday clubs have been recommended for funding including sports programmes, religious groups and camps offering dance, arts and crafts. All holiday clubs are supported to serve food that is culturally varied and takes into consideration religious preferences.

## **Health impact statement**

44. As described in the joint Equalities and Health Impact Assessment, the Food and Fun holiday programme is anticipated to have positive health impacts for all children, young people and families that it reaches. Providing nutrition education to participants and their families and recipe boxes to every child that attends the programme helps improve the food security of Southwark residents by supplying a meal for 4 people per box to be enjoyed at home. The recipes in these boxes are healthy, low cost and simple to make to encourage families to cook healthy meals easily beyond the scope of the programme which will ultimately improve their health and wellbeing.

## Climate change implications

- 45. To reduce the impact the delivery of the programme has on the environment and climate change, the Take and Make recipe boxes and fresh fruit will be delivered in bulk to the holiday clubs rather than across multiple days. The Holiday Programme team will be looking to ensure that delivery vehicles used to deliver any food to the holiday hubs are low or zero emission.
- 46. The Take and Make Recipe Boxes contain exclusively vegetarian recipes, which supports the children and families attending the Food and Fun holiday programme to learn to cook, taste and enjoy meat-free meals. Holiday clubs cooking their own meals for the programme are also trained on how to create a more environmentally sustainable menu with more plant-based options. This is likely to contribute to a shift in mind-sets around vegetarian and vegan meals, which may encourage families to eat meat-free options more often. This has benefits for sustainability as meat consumption contributes significantly to the climate emergency.
- 47. During the 2021 holiday programme, Kitchen Social (the Take and Make recipe box supplier) incorporated education around sustainability into the

recipe videos and added information about sustainability into their recipe cards including information on increasing specific food groups to make a meal more planet-friendly and tips on how to reduce food waste. This helps encourage conversations around eating an environmentally sustainable diet which ties into the training new and existing holiday clubs receive about adjusting the food served during the programme to benefit the environment.

#### **Social Value considerations**

48. The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires that the council considers, before commencing a procurement process, how wider social, economic and environmental benefits that may improve the well being of the local area can be secured. The details of how social value will be incorporated within the tender are set out in the following paragraphs.

#### **Economic considerations**

- 49. The application for funding for this programme is advertised widely, including amongst local VCS organisations. As detailed in paragraph 13, grass roots organisations founded in the areas where target beneficiaries are based are prioritised over larger regional organisations. By supporting local organisations, this programme will help boost Southwark's economy as they hire local residents with local knowledge and lived experiences to run the holiday programmes.
- 50. The holiday programme team have worked with local food businesses to create a list of approved meals suppliers to signpost holiday clubs without cooking facilities to so that they can supply meals that meet school food standards. The fresh fruit supplier for the holiday programme is an East Street Market Trader who lives and employs locally. This collaboration with local businesses supports the local economy and improves cohesion within the local community.

#### Social considerations

51. The application process has been shared widely as detailed in paragraph 9. This has led to a variety of organisations to apply for funding, largely across the voluntary and community sector. Grant recommendations are based on the strength of the applications received and the satisfaction of the selection criteria, however priority is also given to local grass roots organisations for the reasons detailed in paragraph 49.

## **Environmental/Sustainability considerations**

52. As detailed in paragraphs 45 – 47, the council are committed to encouraging environmental sustainability through the holiday programme.

#### Plans for the monitoring and management of the awarded organisations

- 53. The organisations receiving grant funding will be monitored and managed by: the Holiday Provision Programme Officer.
- 54. Grant funding is recommended based on how many places per day an organisation has requested funding for and previous attendance levels evidenced during quality assurance visits to recent programmes and in the monitoring and attendance data from previous programme cycles.
- 55. Each holiday club will be subject to a quality assurance visit to assess compliancy with the programme and to support providers with any issues identified. They must also submit monitoring and evaluation data in order for the holiday programme to assess trends with the borough-wide programme to inform future commissioning strategies.

## **Staffing implications**

- 56. Public Health staff have been managing the grants programme, with the support of a HAF Programme Consultant.
- 57. Please see financial implications section for impact on financial resources.

#### **Financial implications**

- 58. Southwark Council has been allocated £1,550,610 of grant funding from the DfE to cover the cost of coordinating and delivering the HAF programme over Easter, summer and winter school holidays in 2023. The majority of this funding will be directly awarded as grant funding to local holiday provision providers to deliver the programme. This grant funding will be paid in two instalments. The first instalment up to £1,240,488 will be received in the 2022/2023 financial year and the second instalment up to £310,122 will be received in the 2023/2024 financial year, dependent on delivery plans and reports submitted to the Department for Education. This is a similar but slightly higher level of funding than what was allocated to Southwark Council for the 2022 programme. Alongside this, £24,000 from Travis Perkins has been allocated to the programme as mentioned in paragraph 5.
- 59. £243,108 has been budgeted to cover the Easter programme. £188,058 of this is being made available for Easter grants including funding for SEND provision. £23,600 has been budgeted to procure Take and Make boxes and £2,550 has been budgeted to procure fresh fruit, which will be provided to children who attend the programme each day. A maximum of £28,900 has been allocated for coordination, contingency planning and promotion costs.
- 60. The recommended total base grant funding amount is £162,558. This comes within budget and leaves up to £25,500 available to be allocated across the hubs who make provision available for children with SEND

needs. Allocations for SEND will be dependent on holiday clubs providing registration and attendance data and evidence of SEND-specific expenditure, with these details being cross-checked and verified by Southwark Council.

## **Legal implications**

61. Please see concurrent from the Director of Law and Governance.

#### Consultation

- 62. Continuously throughout Southwark's Food and Fun programme which began in Summer 2020, the HAF team have engaged with various stakeholders to understand their experience of the holiday programme and to identify areas for improvement for the future.
- 63. Stakeholders consulted included holiday club providers, pre-prepared meals suppliers, children and families, the holiday provision coordinators, other local authorities running HAF programmes and the Southwark Holiday Provision Network, which compromises of both providers and staff from relevant council departments who are involved in supporting holiday provision.
- 64. Feedback and insights gained from previous programmes have directly influenced planning for the 2023 programme. The Holiday Provision Network continues to meet and will be consulted throughout the year.
- 65. There is a cross council working group that shapes and informs the HAF programme development which includes Public Health, Education, Children's services, Youth services, Leisure and Communications. Funded holiday providers are also invited to share the impact of this programme on their communities and the challenges faced by their organisations and service users so that the programme team can be receptive to these needs when planning future holiday cycles.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

#### **Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and Assurance**

- 66. This report seeks approval to allocate funding to 31 providers identified for the Easter of Food and Fun Holiday Programme as part of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme for 2023. The funding has been allocated by the Department for Education (DfE) and includes funding for SEND provision which is outstanding from the winter grants provision.
- 67. Paragraphs 10 to 14 note the DfE and council criteria that applicant organisations are required to satisfy and the factors that have been taken into account in order to ensure that the local allocation is fair and reasonable, both in its inclusivity and geographical reach. The report also confirms that a robust and transparent process for inviting and evaluating

applications for funding has been followed and that this has been informed both by a consultation exercise and by the joint Equalities and Health Impact Assessment forming Appendix 2 which has been undertaken in order to assess the need for the provision to be delivered in this programme and the cohort of children and families who would be most likely to benefit from the programme.

- 68. The report also notes that recipients of the grant awards will be required to observe and comply with the council's conditions of grant funding and will be monitored in order to ensure appropriate service delivery and value. Paragraphs 62 to 65 describe how the programme has been kept under regular review and consultation for the purpose of assessing its impact and determining how it can be improved and developed.
- 69. The decision to approve the recommendations in this report is one which is expressly reserved to the Cabinet Member under Part 3D of the council Constitution.

## Strategic Director of Finance and Governance REF: [65AS2022-23]

- 70. The Strategic Director of Finance and Governance notes the recommendation of the report to spend the grant funding of £162,558 to 31 organisations for the Easter of Food and Fun Holiday Programme and a further £25,500 to provide places for children with SEND needs.
- 71. The Strategic Director also notes that recipients of the grant awards will be required to observe and comply with the council's conditions of grant funding and will be monitored in order to ensure appropriate service delivery and value

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Background Papers	Held At	Contact			
Department for Education. Section 31 Grant Determination for the Holiday Activities and Food Programme 2023: No 31/6391	Children's and Adults' Services, Public Health Directorate, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Charlotte Pollins 07526 189 904			
Link: www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme					
Department for Education, Holiday Activities Food programme Guidance 2023	Children's and Adults' Services, Public Health Directorate, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Charlotte Pollins 07526 189 904			

Link: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-2023">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-2023</a>

# **APPENDICES**

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Easter of Food and Fun 2023 recommended grant allocations
Appendix 2	Joint Equality and Health Analysis- Food and Fun Holiday Programme 2022 – 2024

## **AUDIT TRAIL**

Lead Officer	David Quirke-Thornton, Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services					
Report Author	Charlotte Pollins, Holiday Provision Programme Officer, Public Health					
Version	Final					
Dated	25 January 2023					
Key Decision?	Yes					
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER						
Officer Title		Comments Sought	Comments Included			
Assistant Chief Executive,		Yes	Yes			
Governance and Assurance						
Strategic Director	of	Yes	Yes			
Finance and Gove	ernance					
<b>Cabinet Member</b>		Yes	No			
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team 16 February 2023						