

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 10 June 2019	Decision Maker: Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Health
Report title:		Positive Futures Fund - Phase One	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Housing and Modernisation	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the cabinet member for community safety and public health approves the funding recommendations for phase 1 of the Positive Futures Fund that aims to support community organisations to provide inspiring opportunities for young people that divert them away from crime. These recommendations are set out in paragraph 22 of the report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. A new council plan for 2018-2022 was agreed by cabinet in June 2018. It includes a safer community as a key commitment. The plan highlights that everyone has the right to feel safe and be safe.
3. The plan also recognises that while Southwark is a welcoming and an inclusive borough and we are proud that so many people want to make it their home we need to empower people, particularly young people, with the opportunities that they need to make positive choices and to stay away from crime and violence. The plan commits the council to investing in our young people and finding new and innovative ways to support their futures, providing opportunities and investing in the groups that give young people inspiration and improved life chances.
4. The recommendation to establish a Positive Futures Fund to deliver this commitment was agreed by cabinet in December 2018. The council committed to launch a new Positive Futures Fund to support community and voluntary groups, to provide inspiring opportunities for young people and divert them away from crime. This investment is additional to the council's existing investment in youth services, grants to voluntary sector youth providers and the Youth Fund that was established by the council in 2011. The fund will complement these existing programmes but be targeted at those young people most likely to become involved in crime. The total fund available is £500,000 to be awarded via a two stage competitive grant process.
5. Within the council, the communities divisions of the housing and modernisation directorate is delivering the Positive Futures Grant Programme, for which the safer communities team is responsible. A full time member of staff has been recruited to oversee the implementation of the grant process.
6. An important element of the programme is the involvement of young people throughout the whole process; involving young people in agreeing programme criteria and outcomes, evaluation of the applications and making

recommendations for funding. In addition to this, applicants were asked to provide evidence of how they have consulted service users in their project proposals.

7. The Fund is overseen by a programme board involved in every stage of the process from agreeing criteria and outcomes, evaluating and making funding recommendations, and support and monitoring successful projects. The board consists of eight members, four of whom are young people aged between 16-24 years old:

- Young Advisor (young person)
- Young Advisor (young person)
- Youth Council (young person)
- Peer Navigator (young person)
- Community Southwark
- Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Public Health, (Board Chair)
- Community Safety and Partnerships, Assistant Director
- Youth Offending Service

8. The Positive Futures Fund has two phases as outlined in the Table 1.

Table 1	
Phase 1	Phase 2
£150,000 allocated to the programme	£350,000 allocated to the programme
Maximum that can be applied for: £15,000	Maximum that can be applied for: £50,000 to any single organisation
Grant term: 1 year, delivery end date 25 July 2020	Grant term: 2.5 years, delivery end date 31 May 2022
Proposed delivery start date is the 26 July 2019.	Proposed delivery start date is 1 December 2019.

9. The key differences between the phase 1 grant programme and the phase 2 programme is the co-design element, which is minimal in the phase 1 programme. The outcome criterion for phase 1 was agreed by the programme board and is set out below in paragraph 12. This element is far more developed in the phase 2 programme with outcome criteria developed through outreach consultation with young people and through a workshop involving young people and stakeholders. In addition to this a consultant will be made available during the application process for applicants to seek advice on their project proposals.

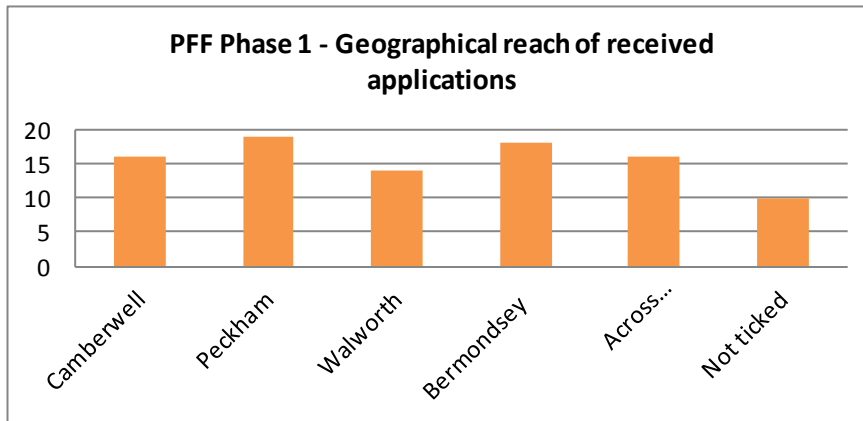
10. The intention is that the Positive Futures Fund creates innovative work with partners to support a more direct community response to not only engaging directly with our most vulnerable and hard to reach young people, but also developing local solutions and responses to youth violence and knife crime.

11. The Positive Futures Fund was launched by the cabinet Member for community safety & Public Health at the Youth Voice Event on the 26 March 2019.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

12. The following delivery criteria and outcomes for Phase 1 of the Positive Futures Fund was decided by the Programme Board on the 27 February 2019;
 - a. Age range: 7-25 years old
 - b. Location: Borough wide. However the Positive Futures Fund particularly welcome applications from organisations working in the following areas: Camberwell, Peckham, Bermondsey, Walworth
 - c. Offer: Universal programmes open to organisations working with all young people. However, applicants were particularly welcome from organisations supporting vulnerable groups such as Care Leaver, Young Offenders, School Exclusions, etc
 - d. Outcomes: Young people develop life skills preparing them for adulthood. Young people have improved health and wellbeing. Remove barriers for young people by opening them up to new experiences
13. These were developed from the full set of 11 criterion and outcomes set out in the report to Cabinet on the 11 December 2018 which established the Positive Futures Fun, (paragraphs 21 and 22).
14. A key challenge in designing this grant programme has been balancing the requirement for programme delivery to start during the summer 2019 with the need to incorporate service user co design/co participation within the programme.
15. Following the launch on 26 March 2019, two workshops were held to provide the aims of the fund, and to inform potential applicants of the grant process, giving them the opportunity to raise any questions. This was also an opportunity for potential applicants to gain advice on developing outcomes and how to involve young people in the process.
16. Two workshops were held at Cambridge House, facilitated by Southwark Council and Community Southwark. 35 potential applicants attended the workshop held on the 4 April 2019 with 69 attending on the 11 April 2019, included eight young people.
17. Following the workshops, applicants had the opportunity to liaise direct with Community Southwark for help in developing their ideas further and support with the application form.
18. 72 applications for the Positive Futures Fund phase 1 were received by the closing date, with 67 applications from a combination of local voluntary organisations, community interest groups and individuals. There were also 5 applications from young people.
19. Applications were received from across the borough with Peckham and Bermondsey being the most popular locations, (see Figure 1).
20. An initial review of the applications received was carried by 2 community safety officers to check the application form has been completed correctly and requested supporting documentation provided.

Figure 1



21. An assessment panel was formed to assess the applications received consisting of one young advisor and two youth Council members, Youth Offending Service and Community Safety Partnership Officers appraised applicants against the set criteria. The panel then met together to discuss and agree projects to recommend for funding.
22. From the total number of applications received 12 were recommended for funding, with 1 application from a Young Person. 10 of the 12 projects recommended for funded were awarded the full amount requested. Two projects were recommended to receive a reduced amount of the sum requested. The list of recommended projects is detailed in table 2. The total funding award for phase 1 is £153,107. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of June in readiness for projects to commence delivery from the end of July 2019. All unsuccessful applicants will be notified and provided with feedback and signposted to other funding opportunity.

Name of Organisation	£ requested	£ allocated	Project
2 to 3 Degrees	15,000	£15,000	Range of inspiration and motivational mentoring and work experience opportunities
Business Launch Pad	£14,966	£14,966	Wellbeing hub in Bermondsey, wellbeing space for entrepreneurs. Enterprise and wellbeing support, business skills
InSpire at St Peter's	£15,000	£15,000	Comprehensive free school holiday programme exclusively for older young people - activities include football coaching/tournaments, youth club (computers, films, pool, music); film night, ice-skating, adventure residential
Motivez Ltd	£13,567.52	£13,567	Student led enterprise. Motivez app. Pilot programme in 5 schools, skills workshop, mentoring, industry visits
Penificent	£12,350	£12,350	Comic series on Mental Health

Youth			
Restorative Justice for All	£15,000	£15,000	In partnership with Youth Scrutiny Panel will run project to minimise the risk of Children and YP being involved in gangs and violent radicalisation. Provide internships and volunteering, workshops on gangs and radicalisation, train youth workers in restorative justice, raise awareness through conference, social media etc
Roadworks Media	£15,000	£5,000	Range of activities on film production, screen acting, media skills for young / ex-offenders
Skills Development Training	£14,679	£14,679	Community based Music youth Club, community talent shows, music production, audio recording
SLM Community Leisure	£12,944	£6,500	Innovative initiative providing pool lifeguarding courses and qualification to young women
Theatre Peckham	£11,044	£11,044	Apprentice-style programme in which two teams of 30 young people aged 13-19 will put on an event at Theatre Peckham
The X Collective	£15,000	£15,000	Develop skills to enable YP chance to discover new tools to improve creativity, MH, career prospects and strengthen employability. Using creativity as the medium of expression, specifically film, music, and photography
Waterloo Sports & Football Club	£15,000	£15,000	Range of activities, basketball, tennis, archery, dodgeball, cricket developing the following skills employment workshops, physical fitness, team building, tournament
Total: £153, 107			

Policy implications

23. The council plan was agreed at council assembly in November 2018. The council plan sets out the council's ambition for a Southwark to be a great place to live with clean, green and safe communities. The council plan commits to "empower people, particularly young people, with the opportunities that they need to make positive choices and to stay away from crime and violence." It commits to "work with communities to find local solutions that help young people stay away from knives."
24. The Positive Futures Fund is part of the council's work towards meeting this commitment and its findings will impact on future policy.

Community Equality impact Assessment

25. Youth violence and knife crime is an issue of national importance and particularly impactful locally. As a result, it is important that Southwark Council effectively understands the community impact and works with community organisations to develop potential solutions.
26. This Fund will focus on and therefore particularly impact young people and the aim is to support proposals that are co-designed with and have the active engagement

of young people in Southwark.

27. There is a legal duty on local authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to promote equal opportunities, eliminate discrimination and to promote positive community relations. This grants programme will empower and enable hard-to-reach communities and those communities which experience discrimination, to achieve a better quality of life.
28. As part of the application process the council will ask organisations to estimate the percentage of their service users that fall into the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010. This information is used to assess the equalities impact of the programme. As part of the application process voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations must demonstrate who will benefit from their organisations' activities and how they support cohesion and community safety initiatives. Organisations must evidence the benefits users gain from their services or activities.
29. Grant funded VCS organisations are required as part of the conditions of grant funding to sign up to the Southwark diversity standard. Contained within this is a requirement that all subcontractors and service provider pay workers the London Living Wage as a minimum. The council has recently achieved Friendly Funder Accreditation with the Living Wage Foundation. Living Wage Friendly Funders support charities to pay the real Living Wage that meets the cost of living through their grant-making.
30. An equalities impact assessment has been undertaken for the Positive Futures Fund. This document is available on request.

Resource implications

31. The total budget of £500,000 over three years, (2019-2022) available for the Positive Futures Fund has been approved as part of the council's budget plan.

Legal implications

32. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on local authorities when carrying out its functions to give due regard to the likely effect of its work on and do all that it reasonably can to prevent: crime and disorder, misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances, and reoffending. This duty extends to the establishment of the Positive Futures Fund.

Consultation

33. Further consultation and publicity about the Positive Futures Fund was given at Community Councils in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe, Borough Bankside and Walworth and Dulwich.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Director of Law and Democracy

34. The cabinet has established this strategy in accordance with section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 (the general power of competence for councils to do anything that individuals generally may do). The decisions in this paper are also made in accordance with the Localism Act powers and are an exercise of executive

functions of the council in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000. These can be made by the Cabinet member in accordance with the council's scheme of delegation.

35. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, public equality duty is relevant to this decision and is referred to in the community implications paragraph above. An equalities impact assessment has been produced for this phase of the fund and indicates a neutral or positive impact for all protected characteristics under the Act. The cabinet member needs to consider this assessment in making the decision.
36. Reference is also made in the report to the duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which is relevant to this decision.

Strategic Director of Finance and Governance

37. The report recommends the approval of funding allocation decisions contained in Table 2. The figure of £153,107 marginally exceeds the planned allocations for Phase 1 although this can be addressed through Phase 2 or alternative proposals.
38. The Positive Futures Fund is held centrally, following the distribution of Phase 1 grants matching funding will be requested from the central reserve.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Council Plan 2018-2022	Housing & Modernisation 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Stephen Douglass 020 7525 0886
http://www.southwark.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/fairer-future/council-plan		
Establishment of the Positive Futures Fund	Housing & Modernisation 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Stephen Douglass 020 7525 0886
Equalities Impact Assessment: Positive Futures Fund	Housing & Modernisation 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Stephen Douglass 020 7525 0886

APPENDICES

No	Title
n/a	

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Stephen Douglass, Director of Communities	
Report Author	Caroline Thwaites, Assistant Director, Community Safety	
Version	Final	
Dated	6 June 2019	
Key Decision?	Yes	
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
List other officers here		
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	6 June 2019	