

Executive

19 May 2016

Portfolio of the Executive Members for Adult Social Care & Health and Deputy Leader, Economic Development & Community Engagement.

Report of the Director of Adult Social Care

Health and Wellbeing Communities Funding

Summary

1. This report sets out proposals to use the Community Fund budget allocated as part of the 2015/16 Council Budget. The purpose of the fund is to invest over the next two years in community initiatives which prevent or delay the need for people to access statutory social care provision by supporting the development of community and voluntary sector capacity to identify and respond to local needs.
2. The Executive has previously approved use of £150k of the Community Fund through the report - Listening to Residents: Ward Committees presented on 30th July 2015 (where it was agreed that £75k per annum, for 2 years would be devolved into ward budgets on a 'per capita' basis). This report builds on that approach and focuses on the proposals for the remainder of the fund and commitments made to date.
3. This report should be viewed in context alongside the proposals for the new operating model for the Council and how the proposals will help develop an enhanced community and prevention offer for customers. The approach is based on the principle that we should always seek to use the capacity of the person and the community to maintain their independence, before reverting to traditional care and support through the council and NHS.
4. The Council is moving towards a new operating model, one that will enable early intervention and prevention and supporting community capacity building to develop and provide local sustainable solutions.

5. To facilitate this shift in approach we will need to support communities to help themselves identify problems early and use assets, skills and capacity that already exists to take preventative action. We should look to work across the whole city in order to join up approaches, target resources and capitalise on the learning that we have. At the same time there will be the opportunity to achieve economies of scale, avoid duplication and make the most efficient use of resources. The proposed investment supports this direction of travel and will support residents, wards, and partners in developing capacity, networks and skills within local communities. The approach is consistent with discussions about the Council's new operating model.

The Council has previously agreed an approach that should involve a long term, integrated, evidence based approach to supporting people with disabilities, mental health needs, older people and their families/carers to:

- Build and pursue their personal vision for a good life
- Stay strong, safe and connected as contributing citizens
- Find practical, non service solutions to problems wherever possible
- Build more welcoming, inclusive and supportive communities

Therefore it is about:

- Preventing or reducing demand for costly services wherever possible
 - Building community capacity and resilience
 - Supporting service reform and integration, having high quality services as a valued back up to local solutions
6. As identified in paragraph 2, local Ward Committees have already been allocated £150K over the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years. This report recommends that this approach is continued into years 2017/18 and 2018/19 with a pot of funding (Local Wards Allocated Pot) set aside for Ward Committees to support both the priorities identified by local residents and ward members.
 7. The aim of the programme would be to stimulate residents into action and to develop initiatives supporting the local communities and utilise the funding available to develop new sustainable initiatives but not provide ongoing funding for service provision.

Targeted funding can also be achieved by officers working with local wards/communities to ensure areas which have specific needs can work together to deliver services purchased on a broader basis but delivered within specific localities.

8. Officers from the Communities Team and Adult Social Care would provide support to communities and local Ward Members and provide a “framework / menu” of potential initiatives that would meet the needs of local residents. Also support residents / wards to look at joining together with other localities with similar requirements to “buy” into broader / city wide services or continue to offer bespoke solutions where residents have identified the need. The potential initiatives could include;

- Community Transport
- Slipper Exchanges
- Befriending/Social clubs and activities
- Local handyperson schemes
- Carers support
- Falls Prevention
- Social Media
- Nutrition, Meals Club, Casserole clubs
- Working with young parents
- Good neighbour initiatives

A guide previously issued by the Communities team is attached at annex B of this report.

9. It is proposed that the balance of the Community Fund as highlighted in paragraph 14 is used to develop a city wide approach in enhancing specialist services. A Dementia offer that would work across all ward locations. This would support the prevention and/or delay of people needing to access formal care packages and statutory support, and where people already have formal care and support, prevent or delay the need for this to increase. By intervening early and supporting low level community activity, the aim is to ultimately reduce adult social care expenditure, and ensure people receive the right level of support at the right stage. Support would also be provided to Good Gym and for Cultural Commissioning as identified in paragraph 14.

10. There are also commitments to fund a new Public Health Strategy for the City called “Well York” which is based on a model of wellness and the Public Health team will be developing an Ageing Well work programme in partnership with local communities. An appointment has been made to a co-ordinator post commencing in May.
11. The impact of the use of the use of the community fund on delivering the new strategy will be monitored by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Recommendations

12. The Executive is asked to:

Agree

The use of this funding for the purposes outlined in the report, detailed in paragraph 14.

Reason:

In order to support the Council’s commitment to ensure people get the right level of support at the right time, supporting local residents and Communities in developing local services and prevent unnecessary demands on formal adult social care where peoples needs could more appropriately be met within the community.

Proposals

13. Members previously agreed a budget across the City of £500K - Community Fund to support a range of corporate initiatives focused on early intervention and prevention, community capacity, place making and delivery of area focused services. This supports the vision and direction for the Council’s new operating model across the City. The direction will support people to stay strong and develop welcoming and inclusive communities which support people in their own local areas.

14. The table below identifies the proposals for the un-allocated £350K budget:

New Proposals

	Year 1 2016/17	Year 2 2017/18	Year 3 2018/19	Total
“Local Wards Allocated Pot” – Additional Funding to support local ward initiatives	0	75,000	75,000	150,000
Capacity Building in the Voluntary/Community Youth Sector	30,500	0		30,500
Dementia Friendly Communities Co-ordinator	23,500	23,500	0	47,000
Dementia Grants	15,000	15,000	0	30,000
Ageing Well Project	50,000	5,000	0	55,000
Good Gym	12,500	0	0	12,500
Cultural Commissioning	25,000	0	0	25,000
Total	156,500	118,500	75,000	350,000

Summary of Proposals

Additional Funding to Support Ward Initiatives

Officers from the Communities Team and Adult Social Care (Community Facilitators) would provide support to local Ward Members and Committees and provide a “menu” of initiatives that would meet requirements of local residents within communities. This would enable residents to look at joining with other wards with similar requirements to “buy” into city wide services that are available or continue to offer bespoke solutions where residents have identified the need. The final allocation will then be agreed by the Director of Communities (as per the Ward Committee system) with advice from the Director of Adult Social Care.

Capacity Building in the Voluntary/Community Youth Sector

This fund will support the development and capacity building of the voluntary and Community Youth sector with a specific focus on helping organisations to secure a sustainable future, for example supporting business and financial planning, and strengthening governance arrangements.

Dementia Friendly Communities Co-ordinator

A Co-ordinator role to further develop York as a **Dementia Friendly City**; to co-ordinate activity across the city, deliver dementia awareness sessions, work with local 'activists' in the identified priority geographical areas to become 'dementia friendly wards' and make sure there is a pathway that works for people to access dementia friendly resources and activity.

This will support the work of the York Dementia Action Alliance, and will meet the required outcomes of this funding; in particular, reducing social isolation and loneliness, preventing falls, improving access and transport, practical and emotional support for carers.

Also to note is that many of the attributes of a 'dementia friendly' community or service are things that are of benefit to all older and/vulnerable people, not just those with dementia.

The Co-ordinator post would be supported for a maximum of two years from this funding, with the intention that should the post still be required beyond this point, the York Dementia Action Alliance would have sufficient time to develop the capacity to seek alternative funding sources for the work.

Dementia Grants

We are aware that small grants for dementia projects have been used very successfully in York previously and have had significant impact in enabling people to live well in the community, so we wish to pump prime further small projects of this nature. All projects would be funded on a one-off basis, and would therefore need to demonstrate via the application process how they could be sustained beyond the timeframe of the project. The outcomes we wish to achieve from these small projects will include; reducing social isolation and loneliness, improving access and transport in the community, and/or practical and emotional support for carers.

Ageing Well Project

Supporting the development of a new public health strategy for the City called "Well York". The strategy is being based on a model of wellness and the public health team will be developing the Ageing Well work programme in partnership with local communities in support of it.

Deliverables by 31 March, 2017 will be:

- An evidence based Ageing Well delivery plan as part of the overall “Well York” strategy
- Increased capacity for tackling social isolation and loneliness in adults and older people, working in partnership with local communities and groups
- Increased capacity for falls prevention work in targeted neighbourhoods identified in the recent Health Impact Assessment of housing conditions, working closely with public health and the housing team in the Council
- Further work to develop York as a Dementia Friendly City

Cultural Commissioning

The City of York Council has been part of a national study over the last year working with the cultural sector and making the link to improve health and wellbeing, prevent loneliness and keep older people independent in their own communities.

As part of this we are working with our cultural partners in the city to bring forward local projects targeted at older people. Partners include the theatre, early music centre, art Gallery and museum.

Good Gym

Members of this scheme use running as an opportunity to get involved in community projects, one-off “missions” to help older people (e.g. making deliveries, changing light bulbs) and pairing members with isolated older people. The older person becomes a ‘coach’ to a runner, giving them encouragement and motivation to keep running, and in exchange the runner will call in for a chat, bring a newspaper and offer support as required.

15. There are a range of outcomes that we wish to achieve with this funding. This is because we are aware, from current demand and feedback, that support in these areas can enable people to stay living independently in their own homes for longer. Some of these outcomes also align with our Public Health priorities and outcomes:
 - To reduce social isolation and loneliness
 - To prevent falls

- Nutrition: to ensure older and vulnerable people have access to a regular nutritious meal
 - Transport: to ensure people are able to access their community, via availability of affordable and accessible transport options
 - To ensure people have low level practical and household support to maintain their independence
 - To ensure carers are supported to enable them to maintain their caring role
16. There are also a number of other key themes we would wish to encourage:
- Innovation and creativity
 - Digital innovation and use of technology
 - Co-production and collaboration, including within the voluntary and community sector in particular
 - Bold and entrepreneurial approaches
 - Initiatives that are specific and measurable (we need to demonstrate the impact of the work)
 - Prevention and sustainability (beyond the timeframe of the funding)

Monitoring

17. Monitoring of the individual projects supported by this fund would be proportionate to the scale of the project. For instance, small ward level projects will be asked to provide a summary report at the end of the period regarding their project, the beneficiaries and key outcomes achieved. Whereas beneficiaries of larger city wide projects are likely to have a Service Level Agreement, with information reporting requirements and regular monitoring meetings throughout the timeframe of the project.
18. We would also use other data sources available to us, such as adult social care expenditure rates and Public Health data, to help us measure the success of the overall funding initiative.

Implications

Finance

19. The £500K funding detailed within this report for the Community Fund was agreed as part of the 2015/16 budget.

Legal

20. There are no known additional implications

Equalities

21. A Communities Impact Assessment is attached to this report

Other Implications

22. There are no known additional implications

Recommendation

23. The Executive is asked to agree the use of the remainder of the allocated Community Fund as outlined in paragraph 14 of this report.

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**Report
Approved**

✓

Date 06/05/2016

Wards Affected:

All

✓

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Annex A – Community Impact Assessment

Annex B – Fact Sheet 3- Ward Budgets