Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 14 May 2019

Transitional Health and Social Care Funding

Item number
Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To choose option a) Provide funding of £200,000 to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board to aid their transitional support or option b) Provide funding of £200,000 via the Neighbourhood Network.
- 1.2 Depending on the option chosen to either a) transfer funding to the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board or b) delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place as outlined in paragraphs 4.6-4.11 of the report.

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Report

Transitional Health and Social Care Funding

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Options are provided on how the £200,000 funds allocated in the budget for transitional health and social care funding could be distributed to those organisations facing the greatest impact following the loss of Edinburgh integration Joint Board (EIJB) grant funding.

3. Background

- 3.1 On 14 December 2018 EIJB agreed a series of grant awards totalling £14.1m over a three-year period. This process was significantly over subscribed and attracted a total of 152 applications, which requested funding of £31m over three years. The grant process carried out by the EIJB was a thorough and robust process but the sheer number of applications meant there were a number of unsuccessful organisations who had previously received funding.
- 3.2 The EIJB agreed that the Chief Officer should work with those organisations that had previously received funding but were unsuccessful in their application, to ensure that service users facing a loss of service were offered appropriate alternative support.
- 3.3 On 21 February 2019, the Council agreed to provided funding of £200,000 to provide additional transitional support for those organisations and agreed that a report would be considered at Corporate Policy and Strategy

4. Main report

- 4.1 This report outlines two options that could be pursued to distribute this funding:
 - 4.1.1 Provide funding to the EIJB to aid their transitional support;
 - 4.1.2 Provide funding via the Neighbourhood Networks.
- 4.2 The option of creating a new Council grants process is not being considered due to the relatively low sums of funding available and the significant resources necessary to create a new robust grants process.

Option a) EIJB

- 4.3 The transitional funding could be transferred directly to the EIJB to aid the Chief Officer's work with organisations that had previously received funding but were then unsuccessful in their applications.
- 4.4 The EIJB meets on 24 May 2019 and as a result this would be the quickest and simplest way for the Council to ensure that the impact on service users was mitigated as much as possible. It would also be the least resource intensive option as it would build on the work already undertaken by the EIJB.
- 4.5 It should be noted though that the Council could not direct the EIJB on how it distributes the funds. It would be transferring the budget and the EIJB would then determine how those funds should be distributed.

Option b) Neighbourhood Networks

- 4.6 The other option is to provide funding to the neighbourhood networks. The neighbourhood networks are the recent creation of the Edinburgh Partnership and act as the local group of the City's community planning framework. There are 13 groups covering the whole City and include a number of community representatives, partner representatives and the elected members for the wards in that area.
- 4.7 There is a further report on this Committee's agenda which recommends that the Community Grants fund that was previously determined by the neighbourhood networks' predecessor is delegated to allow the Networks to influence decision making. It is suggested that in this option the funding is allocated to the community grants fund to allow the money to be distributed using that mechanism. The Neighbourhood Networks are not Council committees so can not be delegated to directly but Locality Managers could hold the formal power whilst taking on board the view of the Networks in the same way they did with neighbourhood partnerships.
- 4.8 This option provides the most direct method for the Council to distribute this funding and allows community representatives and ward elected members to provide their local experience and knowledge to direct where the funding is needed most.
- 4.9 This option will require a revised criteria to be drawn up to distribute the funding to allow the £200,000 funding to be ringfenced within the community grants fund for health and social care. The main drawback of this option is that the neighbourhood networks are not yet operational and it would likely be August at the earliest that the funding could be distributed but with the autumn a more realistic target.
- 4.10 The majority of those organisations who had previously been funded and were unsuccessful were based in the North-East and North-West Locality areas. The total amount previously funded in local areas was £748,298, of which £166,089 was based in the North-East Locality, £507,458 within the North-West, £9094 in the South-East and £65,657 in the South-West.

4.11 It is proposed that funding is allocated to the Neighbourhood Networks based on these amounts which result in £138,000 to the networks based in the North-West, £44,000 to those in the North-East and £18,000 for the South-West. Due to the small amount it is not proposed that the South-East networks receive any funding. It is further proposed that the Executive Director of Place is delegated authority to distribute the funding given by locality to the appropriate neighbourhood networks in that area.

5. Next Steps

5.1 The next steps are determined by which option is chosen by the Committee.

6. Financial impact

6.1 The £200,000 funding was allocated by the Council as part of its budget decision on 21 February 2019. Any work undertaken to distribute the funding will be contained within existing staff resources.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

7.1 Consultation with the community would follow when the funding was being allocated.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Council 21 February 2019 Minute
- 8.2 Edinburgh Integration Joint Board 14 December 2018 Recommendations from the Health and Social Care Grants Review Programme 2019

9. Appendices

None