

Report



Update on the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board Grants Review

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

29 March 2019

Executive Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to update the board on progress with the implementation of the health and social care grant review following the decisions taken by the EIJB in December 2018.
2. Any member wishing additional information on the detail of this paper should contact the author in advance of the meeting.

Recommendations

3. The Integration Joint Board is asked to:
 - i. note the progress outlined in this report; and
 - ii. agree to defer a decision of the use of £100k set aside for the innovation fund in order to ensure alignment with the £200k transition fund established by the City of Edinburgh Council.

Background

4. Following the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board (EIJB) decision in November 2017 to review the grant programmes inherited from the council and NHS Lothian, a steering group was formed and a new programme co-produced with the voluntary sector and subsequently agreed by the EIJB in August 2018.
5. The steering group completed a robust and well thought out application and assessment process. Training and advice surgeries were held for applicants throughout and following the closing date, an independent chair was appointed to moderate the allocation programme - ensuring objective and impartial decisions.
6. In December 2018 the EIJB agreed the health and social care grant programme, based upon recommendations from the Grants Review Steering Group.

Recognising concerns raised by organisations who were unsuccessful with their grant application the IJB agreed the following motion:

The Edinburgh IJB:

- a) *agree to incorporate the funding associated with the health improvement fund (HIF) and advice into the Edinburgh IJB grant programme;*
 - b) *agree the recommended grant allocations;*
 - i. *instruct the IJB Chief Officer to work with organisations previously funded, but who have been unsuccessful in their grant application, to ensure that service users facing a loss of service are offered appropriate alternative support;*
 - ii. *instruct the IJB Chief Officer to work with organisations as above to assist with identifying alternative funding sources or restructuring as appropriate;*
 - iii. *and that successful grant applicants be requested to prioritise working with service users affected by grant cessation;*
 - iv. *to use the final integrated impact assessment to inform the work above;*
 - v. *instruct the IJB Chief Officer to provide progress reports on the points above;*
 - c) *delegate responsibility to the Chief Officer to issue grants in line with these recommendations subject to further financial assurance checks;*
 - d) *does not delegate authority to the Chief Officer at this time to institute the process for the Innovation Fund and to issue grants in line with the recommendations of the Grants Review Steering Group; and*
 - e) *establish a collaborative forum to engage with 3rd sector to jointly develop a programme of community led support.*
7. This paper updates on the follow up work requested by the EIJB as well as reporting on overall progress with the implementation of the new programme.

Main report

General

8. Following the EIJB's meeting in December, all applicants were contacted formally advised of the outcome and decisions made by the IJB. Funding agreements have now been issued to the organisations who will be receiving grant funding and the first quarterly payments will be made in early April.

9. Two assessment feedback events were held in January 2019 to provide all candidates with feedback on the grant review and assessment processes. Over the 2 days, 76 organisations attended, just over half of all applicants. Following these events, individual applicant feedback was offered to projects who requested it. To date, 53 feedback requests have been received and we are initially prioritising the 35 unsuccessful applicants currently in receipt of grants.
10. The level of interest in the EIJB's funding decisions has been high and responding to this level of correspondence both within and out with the statutory sector has diverted resources from the work outlined below.

Work with unsuccessful organisations

11. In response to EIJB's request for service users and organisations be supported through this period of transition, officers, supported by EVOC, have instituted a range of responses. These are discussed in more detail in paragraphs 12 to 14 below.
12. As previously reported, EVOC immediately put in place a suite of tailored support for organisations to help identify other funding opportunities, address future sustainability and provide other relevant organisational information for projects impacted by the grants decisions. All unsuccessful applicants were given the opportunity to access this support, which is free of charge, and covers:

Consultancy support:

- HR/Employment law
- Change Management
- Succession Planning
- Strategic and Business Planning for the future

Training:

- Fundraising (including fundraising strategy and methods)
- Winding up/dissolution of the organisation

13. Organisations have also been encouraged to discuss with EVOC any additional support which may be beneficial to either their organisation or service users and, if appropriate, additional support will be provided.
14. All grant applicants were invited to the feedback sessions referenced in paragraph 9 above. For current grant holders who were not successful in the new process this was supplemented by the offer of 1-1 meetings. Senior officers from the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (the Partnership) have now met 25 of the 35 grant recipients impacted; 2 meetings are still to take place, 6 carers project no longer require a meeting due to alternative funding being sourced, 1 unsuccessful project has not responded to the offer of a meeting and a further project applied for a different service provision and therefore there is no impact to be reported from this service. Whilst challenging at times, the feedback

from these meetings has been generally positive and the information gathered has informed the final integrated impact assessment (IIA).

15. Specific findings and issues raised as part of this work include:

- A number of organisations will be able to **continue to provide services** (albeit for some this will in the short term only);
- Particular challenges will be faced by **older people's day services**. A number will continue to operate in the short term whilst they try to source alternative funding. Limited alternative services exist and many of those that do are already at capacity. Whilst this will to some extent be addressed via the ongoing review of day services, it is intended that the community led support initiative (see paragraphs 23 to 26 below) will explore the development of a "network" of these services;
- Services for **minority ethnic groups** will also be significantly impacted. As above, alternative services not always appropriate or available and service users are likely to encounter language and cultural barriers when engaging with mainstream services. It is proposed that officers continue to work with these organisations, including sourcing appropriate support to develop an improved methodology for articulating the demand for services in order to improve the likelihood of future applications being successful; and
- In advance of agreement of the strategy, services for **carers** have had their funding continued for 1 year as replacement services are co produced. This has been funded from slippage on the implementation of the strategy.

16. The specific impact on the viability of individual organisations and consequent service provision is detailed in the table below:

| Impact | Number of organisations | Target group |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| Organisation to close immediately | 3 | Those vulnerable to poverty, older people |
| Organisation to close over next few months (resources to be used whilst seeking alternative funding) | 5 | Older people, those with mental health issues, those vulnerable to poverty |
| Grant funded service to end immediately | 6 | Older people, those with disabilities, those from minority ethnic communities |
| Service reduced but still operating | 8 | Those vulnerable to poverty, those from minority ethnic communities, older people, those with mental health problems |
| Service to continue | 11 | Carers, those with a disability, those with mental health issues, those affected by drug and alcohol. |

17. Of the 3 organisations facing immediate closure, alternative services have been identified for the service users of 2 of the organisations. These will be provided by successful grant applicants. Organisations which are not closing immediately, have indicated that they wish to retain their service users whilst alternative funding is pursued. Further engagement with those providers will take place as appropriate.

Integrated impact assessment

18. An initial integrated impact assessment (IIA) was undertaken in respect of the grants review, which identified both equality and sustainability implications. A follow up draft IIA, based on the recommendations of the review was incorporated into the report presented to EIJB in December 2018. As the organisations receiving grants are independent of the EIJB, the Council and NHS Lothian it was not entirely possible to predict the impact of the grant decisions with any certainty

without detailed engagement with the organisations involved. Thus the individual meetings which have taken place have now been reflected in the final IIA which is attached as an appendix to this report. Key findings are articulated in paragraphs 15 to 17 above.

Advice and income maximisation service

19. Members will recall that £2.5m (over 3 years) was allocated for the continuing provision of welfare advice and income maximisation services across the city. Accordingly 3 independent welfare advice providers, CHAI, Granton Information Centre and Citizens Advice Edinburgh, have been asked to co-produce and co-ordinate a city wide model for income maximisation services using a more effective delivery model. This approach will allow all income maximisation services delivered in Edinburgh to meet national standards.
20. These providers were asked for a city wide proposal offering a service to the most vulnerable clients in the city and targeted to reach those most in need. The proposed services would be complementary to, and provide a strategic response to, income maximisation services in the city and will address the following key aspects,
 - a) embedded and direct access coverage in Craigmillar
 - b) further development of innovative provision for those with mental health issues;
 - c) an ability to deliver type 1-3 advice provision in all areas;
 - d) an ability to deliver these services in line with national standards;.
 - e) able to match the community link worker network across 20 GP practices with welfare advice support – with consideration given to suitable and accessible alternative local venues;
 - f) identify other areas of the city where welfare advice is not provided but demand is evident; and
 - g) provide further coverage of the ICT system currently available.
21. This is not an exhaustive list and the consortium of providers was encouraged to look to innovate where possible and appropriate.
22. A proposal has been received from the consortium which includes both enhancing embedded advice services and drop in welfare advice services across the city. The detail of this proposal is currently being negotiated with providers. As part of this process, officers have received assurances that provision of welfare advice services detailed in the original proposal can be ready for implementation from 1st April, however discussion around the feasibility of a shop front provision in Craigmillar will take longer to negotiate as appropriate

accommodation able to meet national standards for the provision of advice services will need to be identified. In the interim, a two day drop in service per week will be offered from the East Neighbourhood Office in Craigmillar in addition to enhanced services in GP practices in the area. The provision of a shop front service in Craigmillar may incur one off additional costs.

Community led support

23. The 2019 IJB grants review has been conducted in the spirit of partnership with the 3rd sector, recognising the contribution these organisations make to the city of Edinburgh. Ongoing and positive collaboration forms a key plank of the IJB's strategy. Equally, the emerging transformation programme requires a strong and vibrant 3rd sector to help people to live independent lives. In recognition of this the IJB has set aside £2m in its financial plan to fund "community led support".
24. Community led support is an important foundation in effectively delivering on the 3-conversation-based whole-systems transformation. If we are to constrain growth on the demand for statutory and formal services, we require to build an effective network of community capacity opportunities for people, as well as foster a greater resilience in individuals and communities so that they are able to be more participative and engaged in their own health and wellbeing.
25. To be truly effective this will require an entirely new paradigm of relationship between the formal statutory bodies and those who support citizens outwith these, for example 3rd and independent sector organisations, Faith-based groups, low-level community groups etc. It will require potentially different models of collaboration across the system – in contrast to the current purchaser-provider models via formal commissioning and grants processes.
26. Having had the agreement of the IJB to proceed with our change programme we will be setting up a collaborative – involving those identified above – to discuss how we realise the ambition to deliver on a more collaborative approach to community support.

Transition funding

27. In agreeing its budget for 2019/20 the City of Edinburgh Council made "*£200k available as transitional funding for organisations facing the greatest impacts following the loss of EIJG grant funding. The administration will bring forward a report to Corporate Policy and Strategy to identify how this can be best prioritised.*" It should be noted that this is a Council provision and is not, at this point, a fund over which the IJB has any control.
28. The programme agreed by the IJB in August 2018 included an "innovation fund" of £100k p.a. to support creative and original ideas which may have less of a track record. Reflecting the potential requirement to have some transition funding available the IJB did not agree to proceed with the innovation fund when it considered the recommendations of the grants review in December 2018.

29. Although it is not yet clear how the Council proposes to apply its transition funding, it would make sense to align this approach with that which the IJB takes in respect of the £100k innovation fund. For this reason it is recommended that any decisions in respect of the innovation fund are deferred until the Council's position is confirmed.

Key risks

30. Throughout this process 3 high risks had been identified and reported to the IJB:
- the sustainability of 3rd sector organisations and the consequence of any disinvestment on services;
 - a failure to adhere to the process as set out; and
 - the impact that the volume of applications may have on the timescales.
31. As the process has concluded it is only the first risk which still applies. This is addressed in the integrated impact assessment (IIA) is attached to this report as an appendix.

Financial implications

32. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Implications for directions

33. There are no direct implications for directions arising from the report.

Equalities implications

34. An initial integrated impact assessment was undertaken in respect of the grants review, which identified both equality and sustainability implications. A follow up IIA, based on the recommendations of the review, is attached as an appendix.

Sustainability implications

35. As above.

Involving people

36. The priorities within our strategic plan and the outcomes in the Locality Improvement Plans have already been the subject of public consultation. The

priorities within the outline strategic commissioning plans will form the basis of the 2019 strategic plan and be subject to public consultation in 2019.

37. Grant applications included details of the engagement undertaken with citizens as part of the evidence that there is a need for the service/project.

Impact on plans of other parties

38. As above.

Background reading/references

Grants review – report to the EIJB in August 2018

Grants review interim report – report to the EIJB in May 2018

Grants review, scope, methodology and timescales – report to the EIJB November 2017

Review of grant programmes – report to the EIJB September 2017

Grant review recommendations – report to the EIJB December 2018

Report author

Judith Proctor

Chief Officer, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

Moira Pringle, Chief Finance Officer

E-mail: moira.pringle@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk | Tel: 0131 469 3867

Appendices

Appendix 1

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board – Grants Review,
Integrated Impact Assessment – Follow up

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board – Grants Review

Integrated Impact Assessment – Follow up

An initial integrated impact assessment (IIA) formed the appendix to the IJB report, “*Recommendations from the Health and Social Care Grants Review Programme 2019*”. The IIA outlined the positive and negative impacts for people with protected characteristics which may arise as a result of the grant recommendations. However, without discussions with those organisations affected, the future of the services could not be determined and therefore actual impacts could not be accurately determined. This report provides further information regarding the potential impacts.

Since the meeting of 14 December 2018, organisations which are currently receive grants but were unsuccessful in this round of grant funding were offered meetings in order to:

- discuss the impacts of the decisions on their service users; and
- provide feedback on their application form.

As anticipated in the interim IIA, many of these grant recipients are able to continue to provide the service for which they had been previously grant funded, some on a full-service basis, some on a part-service basis and some will be able to continue to provide the service for a limited time period, depending on whether alternative funding is secured. From discussions, organisations have indicated the following likely outcomes for their services:

| Service target group | Future of Service | Number of users impacted | Locality |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|------------|
| Those vulnerable to poverty | Service reduced but still operating | Numbers of clients impacted is not yet established as project is restructuring | North west |
| Those vulnerable to poverty | Service reduced but still operating | Numbers of clients impacted is not yet established as project is restructuring | North west |
| Those vulnerable to poverty | Organisation to close immediately | An alternative advice service will be provided in the Craigmillar area. The service provided the following: Office visits – 2,782 1:1 interviews – 1,881 Tribunals/Medicals representation - 113 Client Gain - £3,173,590 | North east |
| Those vulnerable to poverty | Service reduced but still operating | 4 new community gardens were created each year | City-wide |

| Service target group | Future of Service | Number of users impacted | Locality |
|--|---|--|------------|
| | | <p>100 people involved in ground design</p> <p>239 involved in training/programmes</p> <p>16 volunteers and 29 people available on volunteer bank</p> | |
| Older people/ Those vulnerable to poverty | Service reduced but still operating | Numbers of clients impacted is not yet established as project is restructuring | North west |
| Those vulnerable to poverty | Service will continue on a limited service basis but all services associated with early intervention application will cease, there is also an indirect impact on community transport provision for NW and the community transport partnership | <p>Volunteering Opportunities - 50 people currently receive an individualised support programme including one-to-one support, development and appropriate training</p> <p>Lifelong learning provision - 19 places per week for lifelong learning provision including ICT, literacy and numeracy and ESOL</p> <p>Early Intervention provision: 29 places for training and awareness raising course per week</p> <p>40 places for healthy eating and fitness activities per week</p> | North west |
| Those vulnerable to poverty/older people | Organisation to close at end of April 2019. | Approximately 500 service users use a range of weekly activities which aim to tackle health inequalities including keep fit classes, for both able bodied and disabled, nutrition/low cost cooking classes, job placements and a Volunteer pool, over 50's groups, social events, parent/carers & toddler groups. | North west |

| Service target group | Future of Service | Number of users impacted | Locality |
|---|--|---|------------|
| Minority ethnic community/ those vulnerable to poverty | Service to end on 31 March 2019. Application for this round of funding had developed from previous years but still included Knit & Natter and Community Chat Café. Knit and Natter is hoping to continue on self-run basis. Community Chat Café hoping to continue through partner funding and a volunteer lead | Service users not directly impacted as provision of direct services will continue however there will be a loss of community well-being and capacity and trust building. | North west |
| Minority Ethnic Community/older people | Service to end on 31 March 2019 | 24 ethnic minority women who have been diagnosed with dementia, or are showing signs of dementia, are provided with one-to-one support | City-wide |

| Service target group | Future of Service | Number of users impacted | Locality |
|--|---|--|-------------------|
| <p>Minority ethnic community & older women (South Asian women)</p> | <p>Service reduced but still operating</p> <p>One lunch club to stop at end of March 2019. One to continue depending on resources</p> <p>The future of the activities, befriending, outings and advice services is still to be established as restructuring is still to be finalised.</p> | <p>Currently, 30 (15 at each lunch club) South Asian ladies over 60 years old currently attend a lunch club on an ongoing, weekly basis.</p> <p>Approx. 400 South Asian older women participate in activities, befriending, outings and advice services over a year – the future of which has not yet been established</p> | <p>City-wide</p> |
| <p>Older people</p> | <p>Advice service to close 31 March 2019. Lunch club to continue for a few months and beyond depending on success of funding applications</p> | <p>30 over 50s, attend a lunch club on an ongoing weekly basis</p> <p>Advice: 1000 people per year</p> | <p>City-wide</p> |
| <p>Older People</p> | <p>Service to close end of April 2019 unless funding applications are successful</p> | <p>24 frail and elderly people receive day care services once a week on an ongoing basis</p> | <p>North west</p> |
| <p>Older people</p> | <p>Service to end on 31 March 2019.</p> | <p>150 older people, including those with recently diagnosed dementia, received short term programmes to improve health and wellbeing</p> | <p>City-wide</p> |

| Service target group | Future of Service | Number of users impacted | Locality |
|----------------------|---|---|------------|
| Older people | Expected to close at Christmas 2019 unless funding applications are successful | 40 elderly and frail people including those with dementia/Alzheimer's (and their carers) receive a weekly day care service on an ongoing basis | North east |
| Older people | Service to end from April 2019 onwards depending on alternative funding sources | 30 elderly people receive a weekly day care service on an ongoing basis 40 elderly people attend a weekly lunch club on an ongoing basis 8 elderly people receive meals delivered weekly 150 people received welfare, support and advice in a year | City-wide |
| Older people | Service reduced but still operating | Numbers of clients impacted is not yet established as project is restructuring | North west |
| Older People | Organisation to close end of March 2019 | An alternative, limited service through a different organisation is to be offered to all service users | North east |
| Older people | Service to end at Christmas 2019 unless funding applications are successful | 40 frail and elderly people receive day care services once a week on an ongoing basis | South-west |
| Older people | Service to end on 31 March 2019 | 364 users per month use this Signposting and information service which directs older people and their carers to services which will improve uptake of preventative health and social activities. 51 volunteers help run the services | City-wide |

| Service target group | Future of Service | Number of users impacted | Locality |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Older people | Service to end on 31 March 2019 | An average of 73 clients per month received a case-management service to support earlier hospital discharge and prevention of avoidable admissions. Client group approx. 85 years old | City-wide |
| Older people | Will continue to produce an on-line only service and hopeful that funding can be secured to produce a paper format also | Direct impact is unknown - 25,000 copies of Get Up and Go magazine are distributed annually | City-wide |
| Carers (6 organisations) | Service will continue. Funding for one year through Carers Strategy. | Service to continue | 5 city-wide 1 North West |
| Those with mental health problems/ Those vulnerable to poverty | Service to continue | Numbers of clients impacted is not yet established as project is restructuring | South west |
| Those with a disability | Service will continue to operate at current level of service as funding has been secured through alternative source | Service to continue | City-wide |
| Those with a disability | Service to end on 31 March 2019 | Support, advice and representation is provided to 115 people with learning disabilities and their carers. The organisation has committed to seeing through current ongoing | City-wide |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|------------|
| | | clients until the outcome of their cases. | |
| Those with mental health problems | Service will continue to operate at current level of service as funding has been secured through alternative source | Post-natal service to continue | South east |
| Those with mental health problems | Continue to run a full service until April 2020 and hopefully beyond that depending on success of funding applications | Service to continue | City-wide |
| Those affected by drugs and alcohol | Service is hopeful of continuation through alternative funding | Service to continue | City-wide |

The previous table can be summarised as follows

| Impact | Number of organisations | Target group |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| Organisation to close immediately | 3 | Those vulnerable to poverty, older people |
| Organisation to close over next few months (resources to be used whilst seeking alternative funding) | 5 | Older people, those with mental health issues, those vulnerable to poverty |
| Grant funded service to end immediately | 6 | Older people, those with disabilities, those from minority ethnic communities |
| Service reduced but still operating | 8 | Those vulnerable to poverty, those from minority ethnic communities, older people, those with mental health problems |
| Service to continue | 11 | Carers, those with a disability, those with mental health issues, those affected by drug and alcohol. |

The table demonstrates that only 3 services are closing immediately.

Older people day services

Eight of the grant recipients which were not successful in their applications provide dedicated older people's day care services, lunch clubs, activities, and advice for older people, and an additional 4 provide activities for older people alongside other community activities. Six of these services are facing closure in the next couple of months and a further 4 by the end of the calendar year with 2 hoping to continue beyond this, as noted in the table above. The majority of these organisations are however continuing to apply for other sources of funding and are aiming to maintain services. Some have secured the help of professional fund raisers/advisors, some have taken up the offer from EVOC for assistance/training on funding applications and some are continuing to apply themselves. All however recognise the challenges of this. As budgets are tightened across the board, trusts have less money to distribute and competition for those limited resources increases. Organisations also highlighted the particular difficulty in securing **core** funding which the majority of trusts will not cover. The lack of core funding also makes it difficult to provide a long-term business plan which potential funders often request.

Transport costs for the members to get to the venue form a significant proportion of the costs for running day services. Alternative ways of funding this have been investigated, including community benefit opportunities, community transport and neighbourhood grants, however no avenues explored to date have been successful. The loss of these day services/older people activities may also have a knock-on effect on the financial sustainability of the community transport providers who provide the transport services.

The impact of a loss of service for the individuals currently using the services is significant. Often this is their only outing of the week and an opportunity to get a nutritious meal. There is concern that social isolation amongst the service users will increase which can result in increase in depression and poorer health outcomes. In addition, these services can also provide a short break for carers, which will be lost if the services finish.

Not all the organisations which provide day care services for older people claim the full cost of the service through the grant. Additional funding is secured through fundraising by the organisations, additional funding applications and/or members' contributions. The value which the volunteers bring to the services is also considerable, both in equivalent monetary terms and the associated health benefits which volunteering brings to the volunteers themselves. In addition, the additional benefits gained by these organisations will also be lost e.g. one organisation had secured, a legal advice service from lawyers who would come into their drop-in sessions every 2 weeks to provide legal advice on various matters including immigration at no charge.

In addition, the decisions not to fund these older people services will have an impact on the development of the *Commissioning Plan for Older People's Day Opportunities which is ongoing*. A meeting with those carrying out the review is being arranged to discuss the implication of reduced funding on the current level of provision in the city.

Minority Ethnic Communities

As noted in the previous IIA, there will be a particular impact for minority ethnic older people. The Pakistan Society, NKS, Edinburgh Chinese Elderly Support and Sahelyia are all facing having to end their older people services. These organisations do not only provide a day care service, lunch club or support but some in addition provide an advice service. During meetings with the organisations they were keen to stress that mainstream advice and support from alternative providers is not always a realistic option due to both cultural and language barriers of their older service users.

Older People Information Services

In addition to the older people's services discussed above which provide day care services and services for those from ethnic minority communities, 3 further projects which provide older people's information, LOOPS Communities, LOOPS Hospital Discharge Project and Get Up and Go will no longer receive funding.

The impacts of the grant decisions on the LOOPs Communities and the LOOPs Hospital Discharge Support Project (HDSP) are immediate as both projects will no longer deliver services from the end of March 2019. No decision has yet been taken about whether the Get Up and Go magazine in print format will be able to continue (25,000 paper copies are currently distributed). However, the online service will continue through Your Edinburgh. The impact on service users is likely to be increased social isolation, reduced physical activity, poorer lifestyle. It is hoped that

the various resources which provide older people's service information can be pooled to allow the production of comprehensive information. Discussion are currently underway about how the range of information resources in the city such as Edinburgh Choices, Your Edinburgh, Red Book (EVOC), the GIS map system and the localities work may work together in the future.

Those with learning disabilities and their carers

The Action Group currently provides a specialist out-reach information and advice resource on welfare benefits and wellbeing for people with learning disabilities and other support needs (autism, asperger's) and their carers. It also provides a programme which increases the capacity of other key organisations to meet the needs of their client group through training and ongoing support. These services will close at the end of March 2019. The service currently advises approximately 115 services users per year and has committed to continuing its existing case load until all cases have been completed. The project is no longer taking on any further case work. As alternative services in the city are currently operating at capacity, the Action Group is struggling to redirect clients. Mainstream advice services are not always appropriate as the providers often do not have the specialist knowledge or support required to give to this clients group.

Carers Organisations

Six carers organisations which currently receive funding, were unsuccessful in their applications to the IJB Grant Programme for 2019-22.

The new Carers (Scotland) Act came into effect in 2018 and a new Carers Strategy is currently being developed to better reflect carer needs and meet the provisions of the Act. Consultation with carers and partner organisations is currently ongoing and this will inform the development of the Carers Strategy and redevelopment of services. As this work is ongoing, it was agreed that those carer organisations currently in receipt of grant funding should have their current level of grant funding (2018/19 level) extended for one year through the financial settlement from the Scottish Government to allow implementation of the Act and the new duties.

This additional funding will enable existing carers organisations to continue to operate at their current service level until March 2020 when the carers strategy will be ready for implementation.

North West Edinburgh

A considerable amount of engagement has taken place with the affected organisations in North West Edinburgh.

With regard to Pilton Community Health Project, a meeting and follow up workshop were held to discuss the sustainability of the project, the impact on service users and options to retain a manageable scale of operation and avoid complete closure. Two further meetings were held to discuss the project's proposed operation for 19/20, with a detailed discussion of their budget position.

Two meetings have been held with Almond Mains Initiative to discuss the impact of funding decisions on their service users, alternative funding and options for reprovision of service users.

Two meetings have also been held with Corstorphine Community Centre to discuss the impact of funding decisions on their service users and provide feedback.

Meetings with the remaining 4 north west organisations have also taken place.

Following meetings with north west projects, it has emerged that; one organisations has now been allocated funding to continue the service for one year through the Carers Strategy; 4 organisations will provide a reduced service but continue to operate; one service will close at the end of April (however is hoping to continue beyond this date depending on the success of funding applications); one funded area service will end however aspects of this service will continue through partner organisations; and one organisation will close at the end of April 2019.

Progress against Recommendations of IIA

| Specific actions from IIA | Progress |
|---|---|
| Discussions should take place with the matt groups, who meet daily to discuss the discharge of patients, to encourage the use of on-line information and help steer patients to participate in appropriate community services on release from hospital. | The impact of the grant decisions on the 3 older people information services is not yet fully established. Consideration should be given to encouraging the various resources which provide older people's service information to work together to allow the production of comprehensive information. Discussions with the matt groups to take place once more information is available and the links with the emerging community led support programme explored. |
| Discussions should take place with those carrying out the older people day services review, as indicated above | Meeting is being arranged and the links with the emerging community led support programme explored. |
| Discussion should take place with those developing the Carer Strategy to try and ensure any gaps in carer provision is addressed through the Carer Strategy | Complete |
| Any gaps in service provision which may arise, should be considered as part of the development of the strategic commissioning plans. | This will be addressed via the delivery plans which are aligned to the strategic plan and associated change programme. |
| Unsuccessful applicants should be directed to web-sites containing information regarding alternative funding sources and advice. | Complete. A "Meet the Funders" event is arranged for NW services on 21 st March 2019 |
| Information/training sessions will be developed and consultancy support provided for grant applicants. | Ongoing – 6 former grant recipients have taken up the offer of support |