

Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 4 November 2021

Young Person's Guarantee Small Grants Allocations

Executive/routine	Routine
Wards	All
Council Commitments	7 and 31

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee:
- 1.1.1 Note the process undertaken to promote, assess and award grants for short term projects under the Young Person's Guarantee;
 - 1.1.2 Agree to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place to award extensions to grants until 31 March 2022 if they are meeting targets, there is continued demand and the providers have capacity to deliver more;
 - 1.1.3 Agree to welcome further grant applications for delivery between January and March 2022, with authority to approve applications of up to £20,000 delegated to the Executive Director of Place and applications in excess of £20,000 to the Executive Director of Place in conjunction with the Convener and Vice Convener of Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee;
 - 1.1.4 Agree to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place in conjunction with the Convener and Vice Convener of Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee to award extensions to grants of up to 12 months from 1 April 2022 if recommended by the Local Employability Partnership and they are meeting targets, there is continued demand and the providers have capacity to deliver more, if further funding is made available from Scottish Government; and
 - 1.1.5 Note that an update will be provided to Committee in January 2022.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Young Person's Guarantee Small Grants Allocations

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides an update on outcome of the recent applications received in response to a call for delivery of Young Person's Guarantee (YPG) activities from October 2021 – March 2022.
- 2.2 The report also makes recommendations to permit extensions to approved grants and to reopen the application process for projects to be delivered between January and March 2022.

3. Background

- 3.1 Edinburgh received a funding award of £2.9m from Scottish Government for delivery of activity under the YPG ambition during 2021/2022.
- 3.2 Scottish Government assigned eligibility criteria and a high level 'wish list' of activities that could be delivered under this funding. Commitment to utilising third sector partners to deliver activity was high on this agenda.
- 3.3 In a report to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee of [2 September 2021](#), the recommendation to use a small grants process to allocate funds to local providers, was approved.
- 3.4 In the same meeting, it was agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place to, in conjunction with the Convener and Vice Convener of Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work to approve applications in order to allow delivery to commence in October 2021.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Following Committee approval, an open funding opportunity was posted on the Joined Up For Jobs noticeboard. A separate invitation was also issued to all current third party grants, Network of Support and Training (NEST), providers to apply for funding to add capacity or additional activity to their existing provision.

- 4.2 Due to the very short timescales, a two-stage process was developed:
- 4.2.1 All providers were requested to provide a summary proposal for spend and activity, with an initial panel of Council, Capital City Partnership (CCP), YPG team and NHS Lothian officers reviewing the applications; and
 - 4.2.2 Where there is no existing grant funding in place, applicants were advised that, if taken forward by the reviewing panel, a second submission containing detail on financial situation of the provider and further background would be required. For providers where existing grant funding is in place, there was no need for further submissions as the due diligence has already been carried out and any additional funds can be aligned to current agreements.
- 4.3 A briefing and summary of applications was prepared for the Convenor and Vice Convenor of Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work and a meeting was held on 28 September 2021 to provide further information on the recommendations.
- 4.4 Of the nine applications received from existing NEST providers, the panel recommended four to progress to funding. The panel found that the remaining five did not evidence how the application met the criteria, still had capacity within current funding awards or it was not clear that they would be able to deliver against targets in the specified timescale.
- 4.5 The average ask of funding for these awards was £22,134.
- 4.6 After appraisal of the 19 applications received from other providers, the panel recommended 10 for progression, and nine to be rejected due to standard of application, duplication of service, lack of information and/or relevance to priorities.
- 4.7 The average ask of funding for these grants was £27,835.
- 4.8 Additional detail has been requested from the 10 and has now followed the same application process as any new grants would do – including company information to carry out due diligence checks.
- 4.9 A list of all applications granted an award is in Appendix 1.
- 4.10 Delivery has now commenced and will continue until 31 March 2022. As there is still funding available, it is recommended to monitor the progress and, if there is further demand for any of the projects and capacity to deliver more, that authority is delegated to the Executive Director of Place to grant further funding in proportion to the initial award granted.
- 4.11 Due to the short time scales, some providers did not have time to submit an application this time and so it is also recommended to open up for a further round of grant applications, to cover delivery in January – March 2022. The specification to providers would remain the same, but with a specific additional point around training and the need to link to labour market opportunities.
- 4.12 For this process and due to time scales, it is recommended that authority to grant awards up to £20,000 is delegated to the Executive Director of Place. For any awards in excess of £20,000, the Convenor and Vice Convenor would require to be consulted.
- 4.13 There has been indications that YPG funding will be available in 2022/23 but Scottish Government is yet to confirm the amount. It is therefore recommended that,

once funding levels are confirmed, an assessment of the projects is performed and where projects have met outcome targets and there is evidence of further demand, extension to the grants can be permitted for up to a further 12 months.

4.14 Officers will provide an update on progress of the grants to Committee in January.

5. Financial impact

5.1 There is no financial impact to the Council as the grants are fully funded through YPG funding obtained from Scottish Government.

6. Stakeholder/Community Impact

6.1 The specification was developed in partnership with those who were involved in the scoring process and was in direct response to information gathered relating to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on young people in Edinburgh.

6.2 The impact on this client group will be positive as the projects will enable them to enhance their employability and develop new skills to help them to secure or progress in employment.

6.3 Partnership working has been at the heart of the development of this process, and Edinburgh's Local Employability Partnership Board has been involved in the process throughout.

7. Background reading/external references

7.1 Report to HHFW on 2 September 2021: [Young Person's Guarantee Delivery](#)

7.2 Report to HHFW on 14 January 2021: [Scottish Government Funding for Employability Support](#)

7.3 Young Person's Guarantee website: <https://youngpersonsguarantee.scot/>

8. Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 – Applications approved.

APPENDIX 1 – Applications approved

NEST Grant providers:

Provider:

Project Name:

Cyrenians
Citadel
Impact Arts
Access to Industry

“Key to Potential – Key to College”
“Futureheads”
“Impact Arts (Projects) Ltd”
“EdinMe Project”

New providers:

Provider:

Project Name:

Street League
RUTS
Young Enterprise Scotland
Move On
ENABLE Scotland
Access to Industry
Cyrenians
Articulture Cultural Trust
Adoption UK Scotland
Barnardos

“Connected”
“Inspire”
“Bridge 2 Business – Edinburgh”
“Move On Employability Pathway”
“Breaking Barriers (Edinburgh Napier University)”
“Access Mechanics”
“Getting Together”
“Creative Potentials”
“Drive2Work”