

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 23 January 2023

Whole Family Wellbeing Fund (Edinburgh) 2024 – 2026: Grants Programme

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note that Scottish Government has provided Edinburgh Children's Services Planning Partnership (CSPP) with Whole Family Wellbeing Fund which to date amounts to £4.1m with commitment to funds in 2024/25 and 2025/26.
 - 1.1.2 Note that CoSLA has agreed that the Local Authority, as the co-statutory lead agency with duties in respect of Children's Services Planning, supports the CSPP ownership of this funding by holding and administering on behalf of its local CSPP.
 - 1.1.3 Note that the collaborative nature of the grant model designed by the Whole Family Wellbeing working group has been approved by the Edinburgh Children's Partnership upon recommendation of the multi-agency Joint Commissioning Group (JCG).
 - 1.1.4 Note that the recommended awards will be submitted to the Children's Partnership for approval and subsequently to Education, Children and Families Committee for noting, and delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services to implement the decisions of the Children's Partnership.

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Report

Whole Family Wellbeing Fund (Edinburgh) 2024 – 2026: Grants Programme

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report details how the Edinburgh Children's Partnership proposes to distribute the Scottish Government Whole Family Wellbeing Fund for the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26.
- 2.2 This is for the figure of £5.2m as a two-year grant and a further one-year fund distribution for 2025/26 which is dependent on further Scottish Government payments.
- 2.3 The funds should assist local Children's Services Planning Partnerships (CSPP) with the commissioning and establishment of holistic whole family wellbeing supports or services in line with the Scottish Government framework. These services should be an upscaling of existing transformational practice in order to build capacity for whole system transformational change required to reduce the need for crisis intervention shift investment towards prevention and early intervention.
- 2.4 As a requirement for this funding, Scottish Government directs that 'Decision-making in relation to this funding is expected to be in accordance with the collective agreement and direction of the local CSPP, with accountability resting with each strategic Children's Services Planning governance forum'.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Scottish Government has identified that holistic support should address the needs of children and adults in a family at the time of need rather than at crisis point. This will help families to flourish and reduce the chances of family breakdown, and of children entering the care system. To enable the commissioning and the provision of holistic whole family support services the Scottish Government is providing funds to every local Children's Services Planning Partnerships to be directed towards transformational design and delivery of supports and services.
- 3.2 The grant programme has been developed in partnership with LAYC and EVOG on behalf of the community and voluntary sector, and representatives across CEC, NHS and Police Scotland.

- 3.3 The Whole Family Wellbeing funds have been received for 2022/23 and 2023/24. This funding has been committed to for the lifetime of the current Parliament, with cross party support. It is not a long-term funding stream, the purpose being to support the transformational change required to reduce the need for crisis intervention and to shift investment towards prevention and early intervention.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The Whole Family Wellbeing Funding (WFWF) is a £500 million investment over the life of the current Parliament (2022 to 2026) to support the whole system transformational change required to reduce the need for crisis intervention. And to shift investment towards prevention and early intervention. The Scottish Government ambition is that by 2030 at least 5% of all community-based health and social care spend will be on preventative whole family support measures.
- 4.2 The Working Group, JCG and Edinburgh Children's Partnership has looked at the Scottish Government priorities for the fund and local mapping of gaps and needs of families regarding design and accessibility of services. A Grant model has been co-designed to scaffold systems change and bring in transformation within the city.
- 4.3 The funds from the Scottish Government have already been received for the periods of 2022/23 and 2023/24 totalling £4.1m towards the grant monies. Further funds will be received for the period of 2024/25 and 2025/26, with the end date of May 2026. It is recommended through the pathway above to distribute the funds in two phases.
- 4.4 Phase one funds will support transformational change through large scale uncapped bids which are granted for a period of two years subject to ongoing monitoring and evaluation. With the first of the grant monies being released to successful collaboratives in May 2024. This will focus on the National Principles of Whole Family Wellbeing and the six priority family groups in line with local priorities as set out in the Edinburgh Children's partnership plan. Further guidance for organisations will be issued when the programme opens for applications. This helps ensure a positive, equitable and inclusive future for our city.
- 4.5 Phase two will be a smaller funds subject to Scottish Government money. This phase will allow those already in receipt of the phase one grant to upscale further through an application or to support smaller collaborative bids for a one-year grant.
- 4.6 The collaborations will be partnerships between the Third Sector and at least one Statutory Partner (CEC, NHS, Police). It is the view of the working group and JCG that this is the only approach that will create systems change through new ways of working and design of services. This will provide plentiful data and evidenced test of change to support long term planning for services within Edinburgh.
- 4.7 An eligibility checklist will ask organisations if they have localised relationships with communities within in Edinburgh; if their organisation holds charitable status or is a CEC, NHS, Police based. Answering 'NO' to any of these questions means the

organisation is ineligible. The Scottish Government criteria excludes individuals and / or private companies.

- 4.8 To support a wide range of organisations to develop partnerships and embed the WFWF principles of non-siloed and non-competitive approach to service design, organisations have the opportunity to submit a 'Collaboration Call Out' through the WFW mailbox. They have engaged with a co-production event and the WFW Project Manager will support 'connectivity' through pro-actively increasing the mailing list to reach a wide, diverse audience. The project manager, prior to the applications being submitted, will ask for a pre-submission summary of the bid. Any bids which are addressing the same need / similar work will be approached by the Project Manager for permission to connect them with each other for further discussion / exploration of service design – note the Project Manager would only connect the potential collaborations. This is part of the transformational approach to service design to create sustainable, positive outcomes for families.
- 4.9 Phase One Applications will be scored by officers and partners who have a good working knowledge of the city, local priorities and needs. This will include CEC, NHS, and third sector representatives, and potentially Police staff. Once the assessment and scoring is complete, the recommendations will be moderated by a Panel comprised by an independent Chair, EVOC and LAYC representatives.
- 4.10 Phase Two Applications will be scored as above with the addition of Families who will be part of the Family Steering Group for WFW.
- 4.11 While collaborative engagement is ongoing, the CSPP will continue to progress the Grant Programme which is expected to open to applications week beginning 4th March 2024.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The timeline for the Grant process will be confirmed and submitted to the Children's Partnership for approval.
- 5.2 A Second Briefing (Co-production) event will take place with the Children's Partnership for approval.
- 5.3 An Evaluation framework will be confirmed and submitted to the Children's Partnership for approval.
- 5.4 To ensure ongoing performance monitoring, Collaborations will be expected to gather and collate monthly impact data on all successful grants using an agreed common reporting format which is currently being designed. Impact data on all whole Family Wellbeing funds will be submitted to the Scottish Government by the Children's Services Planning Partnership (through the Whole Family Wellbeing Project Manager and Chief Social Work Officer) on a 6-monthly basis.
- 5.5 Develop and build capacity with families to create a Whole Family Wellbeing 'Steering group' of those who have lived experience of family support across the

universal and targeted services to create meaningful family and children's voice to embed these into work of the action plan and funds.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The business case for this implementation has been agreed by Scottish Government as a national strategy.
- 6.2 The Phase One budget for Whole Family Wellbeing Grants in Edinburgh is £5.2m.

7. Equality and Poverty Impact

- 7.1 The Whole Family Wellbeing Principles are aimed to develop family supports to enable rights-based and informed approaches that are embedded in a commitment to deliver UNCRC Article 12.
- 7.2 The Whole Family Wellbeing Fund as directed by the Scottish Government should focus on supports for the six priority family groups (as outlined in the Scottish Governments 'Tackling Child Poverty Overview').
- 7.3 The grant model considered previous funds and drivers to hold equity at the heart of distribution. Collaborative bids must consider equity across the city while meeting local area needs.

8. Climate and Nature Emergency Implications

- 8.1 If any is identified, the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) will be able to capture and mitigate impact.

9. Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact

- 9.1 The Grant programme has been developed collaboratively with representatives across the Edinburgh Children's Planning Partnership within the working group, the Joint Commissioning Group and agreed at the Partnership.
- 9.2 An Engagement and Co-Production event has been delivered to a wide audience of CEC, NHS and Third Sector services / organisations who have welcomed the collaborative nature of the process and the programme itself, and the transformational approach of statutory and third sector partnership bids.
- 9.3 Feedback has been very positive with questions and clarification points being published as an 'FAQ' for potential applicants and a second Co-production event in February.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 Holistic Whole Family Support: Route map and National Principles [Holistic whole family support: routemap and national principles - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/documents/2022/06/22220601_Holistic_whole_family_support_routemap_and_national_principles.pdf)
- 10.2 Getting it Right for Every Child: Whole Family Wellbeing Fund [Whole Family Wellbeing Funding - Getting it right for every child \(GIRFEC\) - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/documents/2022/06/22220602_Whole_Family_Wellbeing_Funding_-_Getting_it_right_for_every_child_(GIRFEC).pdf)
- 10.3 Tackling Child Poverty: Overview of the Priority Families (June 2023) [PowerPoint Presentation \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/documents/2023/06/23230601_Tackling_Child_Poverty_Overview_of_the_Priority_Families_June_2023.pptx)

10. Appendices

None