

Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee (Special Meeting)

10.00am, Wednesday, 19 April 2023

Present

Councillors Watt (in the Chair), Bruce, Caldwell, Campbell, Dobbin, Flannery, Griffiths (substituting for Councillor Meagher), Kumar, Parker, Rae and Whyte.

1. Chair

Decision

In the absence of the Convener, Councillor Watt was appointed as Chair for the meeting.

2. Parental Employability Support

Details were provided of the work already undertaken by the City of Edinburgh Council and local employability partners to put in place services for parents. A plan for quickly implementing extended services was recommended, with the additional funding being made available by the Scottish Government in 2023/24.

Motion

- 1) To note the indicative funding to be allocated for Parental Employability Support (PES) delivery in Edinburgh in 2023/24.
- 2) To approve the proposed programme of activity, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To agree to commission a small grants programme as follows:
 - 3.1) Two grants of up to £50,000 to deliver Money Advice and Whole Family Support services.
 - 3.2) Four grants of up to £75,000 to deliver services for migrant parents.
 - 3.3) One grant of up to £50,000 to deliver a service for parents who had recently experienced removal of a child (or children).
- 4) To note that officers would proceed with commissioning a small grants programme. While it was intended that the outcome of this would be reported to Committee on 9 May 2023, the timeline for this was extremely tight and it was anticipated that the report would not be available until 5 May 2023.

- moved by Councillor Watt, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

Amendment

- 1) To note the indicative funding to be allocated for Parental Employability Support (PES) delivery in Edinburgh in 2023/24.
- 2) To approve the proposed programme of activity, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To agree to commission a small grants programme as follows:
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 - 3.3) One grant of up to £50,000 to deliver a service for parents who had recently experienced removal of a child (or children).
- 4) To note that officers would proceed with commissioning a small grants programme. While it was intended that the outcome of this would be reported to Committee on 9 May 2023, the timeline for this was extremely tight and it was anticipated that the report would not be available until 5 May 2023.
- 5) To note that not all parents and guardians who may have made use of these services had internet access or the time to explicitly seek them out. To note the Childcare information website interactive map and booking system was projected to cost £80,000. Therefore, to request any underspend on, including but not limited to, the Childcare information website, was ringfenced for an offline campaign such as posters and promotional material in community centres, libraries, community boards in supermarkets and GP surgeries.

- moved by Councillor Flannery, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

In accordance with Standing Order 22(12), the amendment was accepted as addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Meagher:

- 1) To note the indicative funding to be allocated for Parental Employability Support (PES) delivery in Edinburgh in 2023/24.
- 2) To approve the proposed programme of activity, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report by the Executive Director of Place.
- 3) To agree to commission a small grants programme as follows:
 - 3.1) Two grants of up to £50,000 to deliver Money Advice and Whole Family Support services.
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 - 3.3) One grant of up to £50,000 to deliver a service for parents who had recently experienced removal of a child (or children).
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Committee on 9 May 2023, the timeline for this was extremely tight and it was anticipated that the report would not be available until 5 May 2023.

- 5) To note that not all parents and guardians who may made use of these services had internet access or the time to explicitly seek them out. To note the Childcare information website interactive map and booking system was projected to cost £80,000. Therefore, to request any underspend on, including but not limited to, the Childcare information website, was ringfenced for an offline campaign such as posters and promotional material in community centres, libraries, community boards in supermarkets and GP surgeries.

(References – Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee of 9 March 2023 (item 12); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)