

21 September 2015**Agenda Item: 10****REPORT OF THE TEMPORARY SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES
AND CULTURE****ESTABLISHMENT OF POSTS FOR ASSIST SMOKING PREVENTION
PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for the establishment of posts to deliver the ASSIST smoking prevention programme in schools.

Information and Advice

2. Approval was given at the Public Health Committee on 12 May 2015 to purchase the ASSIST licence, which forms part of the new model for Tobacco Control services that are being re-commissioned by Public Health.
3. Smoking is the largest single cause of preventable illness in the UK and whilst smoking prevalence is falling overall, smoking levels in certain areas of Nottinghamshire and amongst certain populations remain high. In Nottinghamshire it is estimated that 2,500 11-15 year olds taking up smoking each year.
4. ASSIST is a smoking prevention peer support programme delivered to Year 8 pupils in school. It involves training influential peers to have informal interactions outside of the classroom to encourage their peers not to smoke.
5. ASSIST is the only evidence-based smoking prevention programme with a positive impact, demonstrated through a randomised control trial of 10,730 students in 59 schools in England and Wales. Students were followed up immediately after the intervention, at one year and two years post intervention. Results showed a 22% reduction in the odds of being a regular smoker in an intervention school compared to a control school. There was evidence to suggest that ASSIST worked best in close knit communities e.g. ex mining areas.
6. An ASSIST programme budget of £150,000 per annum has been allocated from the tobacco control budget and will include costs for:
 - a) a three year ASSIST licence
 - b) an ASSIST coordinator to coordinate set up and monitor the programme with schools
 - c) training the trainers to deliver the ASSIST programme and follow up sessions to Year 8 pupils

- d) costs associated with training days e.g. venue, travel, food, costs to cover a supply teacher
 - e) the recommendation that a teacher accompany the pupils on the two days out of school costs to cover a supply teacher
 - f) evaluation of the programme.
7. Costs cover delivery of the programme in target secondary schools only; this equates to 22 of the 45 secondary schools over the three year period covered by the licence. The programme will be repeated in years two and three in schools of highest need. There is the option to extend the licence and programme beyond year three. This will be reviewed in year three.
8. The Youth Service has been commissioned internally to deliver the ASSIST programme as stipulated by the licence, which includes:
- a) young people must be nominated by their peers from Year 8 in secondary schools
 - b) 18% of the year group must be identified and trained and must be representative of the gender balance in the year group
 - c) young people must undertake two day training sessions, delivered out of school by non-school staff
 - d) at least 15% must be recruited as peer supporters
 - e) the conversations that follow must be informal and delivered outside of lessons
 - f) a trainer to child ratio of 1:15 when in school and 1:10 when out of school is required
 - g) schools with a large year group (over 170) will require parallel training sessions to be run
 - h) the programme should not be delivered to schools with less than 60 in a year group.
9. A change to the establishment of the Youth Service is proposed, to include the following, on a fixed term contract for three years:
- 0.5 FTE ASSIST coordinator post (Hay Band A - £19,212)
 - a pool of ASSIST trainers to deliver the programme to Year 8 pupils (Youth Worker Professional Range - £853 per trainer, per school).

Other Options Considered

10. Establishment of these posts are in accordance with the conditions of the licence.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. These recommendations support the business case agreed by the Public Health Committee in May 2015 to purchase an ASSIST licence to internally deliver a smoking prevention programme to Year 8 pupils.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such

implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

13. The changes to the Youth Service structure will be met within the budget allocated to the ASSIST programme from the Public Health grant.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) The proposed changes to the staffing structure of the Youth Service, as detailed in paragraph 9 of this report, be approved.

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Constitutional Comments (SLB 26/08/15)

14. Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report, subject to the Employment Procedure Rules which require all reports to include HR advice and for the recognised trade unions to be consulted.

Financial Comments (SS 28/08/15)

15. The financial implications of this report are contained within paragraph 13.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Re-commissioning Tobacco Control Services – report to Public Health Committee on 12 May 2015

Job Descriptions for Coordinator and Trainers

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0690