

21st June 2021**Agenda Item: 17****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND SOCIAL
WORK****HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD (HAF) PROGRAMME - ESTABLISHMENT OF
HAF DELIVERY COORDINATOR POST****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Committee on delivery of the Holiday Activity and Food Programme within Nottinghamshire and seek approval to establish a Youth Worker post to coordinate the HAF programme on a fixed term basis.

Information

2. The Department for Education funded HAF programme provides free meals, nutritional education and engaging activities for children and young people eligible for Free School Meals, aged 5-16 years, over the 2021 Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays. The Department for Education has allocated £2,584,070 to fund the programme.
3. The Department for Education has mandated that high quality provision must include healthy food, enriching activities, physical activities, nutritional education and be inclusive and accessible. Nottinghamshire County Council retains the ambition to deliver a provision which:
 - a. levels up communities through an aspirational and inclusive delivery
 - b. utilises existing infrastructure and provision for engaging children and young people, thus maximising cost-effective delivery
 - c. complements and enhances provision through existing providers of holiday clubs
 - d. provides a tailored offer for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability
 - e. delivers a safe and COVID secure model.
4. Over the Easter school holidays, Nottinghamshire County Council delivered the HAF via the Young People's Service and Children's Centres Service through a hybrid approach of limited face to face delivery and remote provision due to the risk of COVID-19.
5. The Young People's Service opened 18 sites across the seven Districts for face to face delivery. Throughout Easter, 4,165 high quality food packs were distributed to children and young people, alongside 3,700 activity packs. Feedback from families has been extremely positive.

6. In keeping with the ambition of levelling up Nottinghamshire, any surplus food packs were distributed to known vulnerable children or via the voluntary sector. Food vouchers from the COVID Winter Grant were also used to support those on Free School Meals under 5 years, and young people over 16 years.
7. Management of the HAF Easter delivery was undertaken by the Young People's Service management team, alongside existing duties, with additional support from the Programmes and Projects team. It is recognised that this is not sustainable for Summer 2021.

Summer 2021

8. Summer delivery of the HAF will be delivered across the Summer holidays, totalling four days of activity per week, for four weeks, in line with Department for Education grant funding. It is anticipated that delivery will include a greater face to face element as Nottinghamshire enters Steps 3 and 4 of the Government's *Roadmap Out of Lockdown*.
9. Summer delivery will take place during the Young People's Service fixed closure, and existing internal infrastructure is unlikely to be able to meet demand for face to face delivery. Nottinghamshire County Council therefore intends to engage with external delivery partners including schools and the community and voluntary sector. This will significantly increase management demand.
10. Under the Department for Education grant conditions for HAF, Nottinghamshire County Council may spend 10% of the total funding allocated to coordinate delivery on costs associated with running the programme, including management capacity.
11. Recognising existing pressures within the Young People's Service management structure, it is proposed that Nottinghamshire County Council establish 1 FTE HAF Coordinator post until February 2022 using this funding. This post will plan and coordinate the operational delivery of the Summer and Christmas HAF programme.

HAF Delivery Coordinator

12. The duties of the HAF Delivery Coordinator post will include:
 - liaising with a wide range of delivery partners
 - supporting all providers to meet a framework of minimum standards including safeguarding requirements and ensuring that meals meet school food standards
 - supporting all providers to improve the quality of their provision
 - promoting and advertising provision, including working with local schools and other agencies to encourage the most at need children to attend and where possible join up other initiatives to improve the outcomes for children and young people, such as the Summer Schools Programme
 - working with local services or agencies to ensure a joined-up and efficient approach, for example, signposting and sharing resources
 - building local partnerships and sharing learning and good practice among local partners
 - ensuring that sufficient, adequate provision is available for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities or additional needs.
13. It is proposed to employ the HAF Delivery Coordinator for the duration of the programme. The HAF Delivery Coordinator will report to the Group Manager for Young People's Service. To ensure sufficient experience and local knowledge, the HAF Delivery Coordinator will be recruited to a Youth Worker post:

- 1 FTE Youth Work Grade (JNC) Coordinator post until February 2022 at a cost of £41,690

Other Options Considered

14. No other options have been considered. Existing Young People's Service management capacity is stretched and managing the HAF programme alongside existing duties is presenting a challenge.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

15. To effectively deliver the HAF programme across Nottinghamshire.

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance 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, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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

17. The cost of 1.0 FTE Youth Work Grade (JNC) Coordinator post until February 2022 is £41,690 and will be funded from the Department for Education grant provided to deliver the HAF programme. Up to 10% of the allocation, £258,407, can be used to co-ordinate delivery on-costs associated with running the programme, including management capacity.

Human Resources Implications

18. Recruitment and selection will be in line with Nottinghamshire County Council's employment procedures.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Committee approves the establishment of 1 FTE Youth Worker post to coordinate the Holiday Activity and Food Programme on a fixed term basis for the duration of the programme.

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Constitutional Comments (AK 20/05/21)

19. This report falls within the remit of Children and Young People's Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 26/05/21)

20. The cost of 1.0 FTE Youth Work Grade (JNC) Coordinator post until February 2022 is £41,690 and will be funded from the Department for Education grant provided to deliver the HAF programme. Up to 10% of the allocation, £258,407, can be used to co-ordinate delivery on-costs associated with running the programme, including management capacity.

HR Comments (BC 11/05/21)

21. The staffing implications are contained within the body of the report. The post will be recruited to in line with the Council's vacancy control and recruitment procedures.

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.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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