

SUBJECT: Supporting People Programme Grant – 2016/17 proposals

MEETING: Adult Select Committee

DATE: 8th March 2016

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

To present to the Committee the proposed developments in the Supporting People Programme Grant funded provision in 2016/17

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That members consider the 5 main service developments and approve the proposal to complete detailed negotiations with a view to implementing them for 2016/17

3. KEY ISSUES:

During 2015 the expectation was that SPPG would be cut by anything up to 25%. Therefore a number of cut-management scenarios were worked through. However, in January 2016, the Minister announced indicative local authority allocations that maintained funding levels at 2105/16 levels - £2,039,175 for Monmouthshire

Included in these cut-management strategies was the assumption that Phase II of our SP pricing strategy would be implemented. Phase I was implemented in 2015/16 and which ensured a consistency across the provision based on the cost per funded support worker. At the same time the principle of only funding support hours delivered was introduced (as opposed to block contracting). The latter implementation generated some clawback opportunities that generated in-year underspends that allowed 2 younger person services to be piloted. Applying the Phase II strategy, which makes the cost per actual support hour delivered consistent, releases a further £141k for service developments.

Over the last year expectations for SP to link with and/or support other initiatives has increased. On the one hand there are a range of increased expectations associated with the Social services and Well-being Act, from SP's perspective these are primarily related to primary prevention and early interventions. Welfare benefit and housing reforms have also increased the incidence of people needing help and support to address their immediate housing issues. The Minister has further called for a closer collaboration between the 3 Tackling Poverty initiatives and SP (Communities First, Families First and Flying Start). And lastly there are increased expectations with respect to SP support in domestic abuse and violence situations and in the effective resettlement of prisoners on release.

Monmouthshire already has an effective service provision for domestic abuse and further developments in this area and prison release have been organised on a regional basis via the Regional Collaborative Committee.

Monmouthshire's direction of travel in terms of service development incorporates the established Integrated Social Care and Health services with the Place-Based approach that has been piloted in two areas. The proposals included in this paper are in support of these service developments and the under provision of services for younger people and care leavers.

Proposals 1-5 are attached

For younger people, the services piloted in this year through underspends generated by implementing clawbacks within Phase I of the new SP pricing strategy are to be adopted as permanent services in 2016/17.

With demand for support by older people in the community actually decreasing, the opportunity to reassign these resources to Place-Based support in the community is achievable. At the same time, the success of the activity coordination resource for older people is to be expanded across all areas and extended to offer activity and support to a much wider client group.

Lastly, the proposals include a development to the SP assessment and brokerage service – the Gateway. The Gateway will directly manage primary prevention, early intervention and floating support services in addition to brokering to an enlarged database of services that will not only include SP services, but community support assets, Tackling Poverty initiatives and, if needed, to SC&H services.

4. REASONS:

People in the communities will benefit from easier and speedier access to a wider range of support services. The closer involvement by SP with SC&H and Tackling Poverty initiatives will reduce duplications of support, will enable the various teams to concentrate on their own specialisms relying on SP to provide the specialist housing support. The model increases the provision that is able to initiate and implement one-off primary prevention interventions.

The value for money reviews across all the SP services, and the implementation of the Phase II pricing strategy, creates a grant resource that needs to be utilised for maximum benefit to the aims and objectives in Monmouthshire

5. RESOURCE

The budget for the administration and management of SP, H064, remains unaffected by these proposals which only refer to the distribution and utilisation of the SPPG itself.

The resulting spendplan, that has been forwarded to Welsh Government, to enable the 2016/17 allocation to be confirmed before 31 March is attached in Appendix II

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

In Appendix I an assessment of impact on equalities and sustainable development is presented. In terms of the equality impact, the proposals for an effective increase in generic floating support across the communities will make access to services easier, quicker and wherever possible, preventative in nature. The proposed services are tenure and protected characteristic neutral in nature and therefore unlikely to have any elements of disadvantage associated with them. The actual impacts will be reviewed when the further developments of these pilot services are considered.

7. SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

The proposals increase the number of support workers in the communities. Floating Support caseloads are greater than accommodation based services, so there will be an increase in interactions with people in their own homes. SP already provides support to more than 70 vulnerable families, the proposed model increases this expectation. Taken as a whole, the opportunities for identifying actual or potential abuse of children or adults will increase – a positive impact.

8. CONSULTEES:

MCC – SP provider Forum; SP Planning Group; SP Regional Officers Group; Welsh Government Officers; Welsh Local Government Association officers, Place-Based coordination

Further consultation required: Regional Collaborative Committee, SP Planning Group, Directorate Management Team; SP Support worker forum; Service User meetings; SP individual providers

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

- Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2015-17
- Background information from Comprehensive Spending review

10. AUTHOR:

Chris Robinson, Lead Commissioner QA (Adult Social Care & n Health) & SP Lead office

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

E-mail: Chrisrobinson@monmouthshire.gov.uk **TeL:** 07766160821