

North Yorkshire County Council
Children & Young Peoples Services

Executive Members 19 March 2024

Supporting Families Programme

Report of the Corporate Director – Children & Young People’s Service

1.0 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek agreement for NYCC to sign up to deliver the Supporting Families Programme in 2024/2025, which will allow the Chief Financial Officer to authorise the participation of NYCC in the programme. This will enable the local authority to receive the allocated funding.

2.0 Issues

- 2.1 The government programme Supporting families, previously known as Troubled families, programme was launched in 2014 and NYCC has successfully fulfilled the requirements of the programme since 2015. Each year, the local authority is required to sign up to the programme and accept the grant.
- 2.2 The Government programme sets each local authority targets for the number of families that can be claimed for (appendix 1a). The full guidance for the Supporting Families Programme 2022-2025 can be found at [Supporting Families Programme guidance 2022 to 2025 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-families-programme-2022-to-2025)
- 2.3 A group of local authority Internal Auditors have worked with the national Supporting Families Team to lay out four guiding principles (collaboration, proportionality, best evidence available and communication) to inform audit practice and ensure that the right balance between rigour and proportionality is struck in the wider interests of the programme’s delivery and value for money objectives. Full details can be found in the guidance document referenced above.

3.0 Performance Implications

- 3.1 The funding as in previous years is consists of two funding streams; two streams. funding for the delivery of intensive family support and developing the maturity of your Early Help system, paid at the beginning of the year as one full payment; and the other for achieving successful family outcomes with a minimum number of families, paid following each quarter’s submission of successful outcomes.
- 3.2 Whilst the total funding available in 2024/25 remains the same as initially projected, £1,833,800 the proportion of upfront funding has changed from the indicative allocations provided last year. This change will keep the proportion of funding for outcomes and the upfront investment more aligned to the current year (2023/24).

- 3.3 This funding change does not alter the expectations on achieving successful family outcomes in 2024/25 and the requirement to report all successful family outcomes remains. The first 810 successful family outcomes reported will result in £800 payments per outcome. With a maximum funding of £648,000. The subsequent 131 outcomes to achieve of total annual target will not result in further payments.
- 3.4 Local authorities' Internal Auditors will continue to verify successful outcomes before they are submitted.
- 3.5 Areas will continue to be monitored against the overall target. It is the expectation that the upfront funding received in 2024/25 is used to bolster preventative support for families through Early Help and to transform local services.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 NYCC targets and funding are as follows:-

	2024/25
Advance funding for the delivery of intensive family support and developing the maturity of your Early Help system	£1,185,800
Maximum funding available through PbR for successful family outcomes	£648,000
Number of successful family outcomes funded through PbR	810
Total successful family outcomes target	941
Total funding	£1,833,800

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 This funding is subject to continued participation in the programme and commitment to the sign-up conditions which will be issued to before the start of the new financial year. The sign-up conditions set out the expectations for achieving successful family outcomes; essential resourcing of the programme; commitment to working with partners to integrate and transform local public services to embed whole family working; to re-balance the system and reduce demand on children's social care; to commit sufficient development and analytical resource to the programme; and to deliver the required milestones for increasing data maturity. As Children and Families service we have been signed up to the programme since 2015, the service delivery is fully embedded within the Early Help service. The sign-up conditions are set out in the attached letter

6.0 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 An Equalities Impact (EI) assessment has taken place and acceptance of the grant does not result in EI implications. The programme is already embedded within the Children & Families service so there is no impact. However, if the funding is not available in the future, the services may reduce. The service offers support to those that are vulnerable and in need of support, no matter what their protective characteristics. Interventions are based on need.

7.0 Environmental Impacts/Benefits

7.1 A climate change impact assessment has been completed. The programme has no adverse impact as the programme is already embedded within the Children & Families service, using existing systems and buildings. No changes to services are proposed. Children and Families workers work with families in line with the Early Help Strategy.

8.0 Reasons for Recommendations

8.1 The programme has been delivered since 2015 as part of the Early Help service. The programme brings in a financial reward.

8.2 As part of the budget proposals for 2024/25 which were approved by Full Council in February 2024, £750k of the Supporting Families funding will contribute towards budget savings.”

8.0	Recommendation(s)
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8.1	To agree that NYCC signs up to the Supporting Families Programme for 2024/2025
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Corporate Director – *(Children and Young People Service)*

County Hall
Northallerton
March 2024

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Background Documents – Conditions of Funding

Appendix 1

1a) 
North Yorkshire
allocation letter.pdf

1b) 
Ministerial Letter.pdf

