

## COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

20 MARCH 2013

### REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### **SUPPORTING LEICESTERSHIRE FAMILIES (FORMERLY KNOWN AS LEICESTERSHIRE TROUBLED FAMILIES)**

##### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise Members of the Supporting Leicestershire Families (SLF) specification for delivery of services following the agreement to pool budgets.

##### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 **Members agree the attached Specification at Appendix A as the basis of the delivery of the Supporting Leicestershire Families.**
- 2.2 **The Council's agreement to deliver these services be entered into as part of the Memorandum of Understanding with Leicestershire County Council entered into on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011.**
- 2.3 **Members note the specific provision with respect to the employment of the workers.**

##### **3.0 KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 As Members will recall the Council has agreed to be part of the Supporting Leicestershire Families Programme led by the County Council. The Council has previously approved a partnership contribution of £30,000 per annum from 2013/14 through to 2015/16 (total £90,000) as part of the Leicestershire pooled budget to deliver the SLF services.
- 3.2 Furthermore, the SLF approach in this County is to deliver the services on a Locality basis. Melton Borough Council has been part of the Design Authority approach which has put in place the Specification attached at Appendix A. Members will note that the Specification broadly follows the approach developed by this Council in previous years through its Family Intervention Project. However, procedures relating to acceptance and allocation of cases (relevant flow diagram attached at Appendix B) assimilation into County-wide safeguarding processes and the development of County-wide collation of better insight and information relating to the families will add significant value to previous activity.
- 3.3 As this Council was already an employer of experienced staff, it has taken on the responsibility of formal employment of all SLF workers. Another Council in the partnership has also taken that approach. This means that a specific condition will be inserted within the Specification to deal with the Melton issues. This ensure that Melton based SLF workers will be allocated to cases within the Council's area until such time as the numbers do not require such resource.

3.4 The Council already has a Memorandum of Understanding with Leicestershire County Council which was entered into on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011. This arrangement covers a partnership approach between public sector bodies to the delivery of the particular functions and services. As the Council has this arrangements it is proposed that the agreement to deliver the SLF service in the Melton Locality sit under this Memorandum.

3.5 As Officers at different levels have been part of the development of this service and indeed the Melton experience has in no small measure helped shape the approach, Officers recommend the acceptance of the specification by Members and its completion under the Memorandum of Understanding.

#### **4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

##### **4.1 POLICY**

Support to families and vulnerable adults has for some considerable time been a key priority for the Council. It remains such and therefore partnership in the SLF Programme and the Locality delivery approach through the attached Specification is in line with the Council's policies, priorities and corporate approach. It remains the Council's corporate intention to continue to add value and develop its services to vulnerable families and adults by use of insight and experience to redesign and develop delivery, as appropriate.

4.2 The Council has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the County Council, which is an overarching agreement setting out both authorities intentions to work together to deliver services for the benefit of the residents of the Borough of Melton.

4.3 The MoU sets out the basis that the two authorities will work together and gives the authorities the legal basis to enter into specific agreements for providing particular statutory services. It is proposed that the separate agreement between Melton Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council be entered into, as part of the inter authority arrangements detailing how the authorities will work together to support families with complex needs within the Borough.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 As said within the body of the report, the Council has agreed a sum of £90,000 over three years as its contribution to the pooled budget for the County-wide SLF Programme. The Council will also be providing its capacity through the Team around the Family, particularly with respect to additional activity required for administration to support the increased professional capacity and the necessary performance reporting, particularly that which meets the National Payment By Results Model.

#### **6.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY**

6.1 It is accepted that when dealing with vulnerable families, problems which can manifest themselves do arise from community safety/antisocial behaviour. The Programme will assist in reducing the impact of these matters on local people.

#### **7.0 EQUALITIES**

7.1 These issues have been dealt with by the Programme overall. No particular issues have been reported to the Project Board.

## 8.0 RISKS

Probability					Risk No.	Description
Very High A						
High B						
Significant C		1				
Low D						
Very Low E						
Almost Impossible F						
	IV Negligible	III Marginal	II Critical	I Catastrophic		

**Impact**

## 9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

9.1 There are no particular implications arising from this report.

## 10.0 CONSULTATION

10.1 Specific aspects of consultation have been carried out by the Programme Team which have involved representatives of vulnerable families, practitioners and professionals, and other experts in relevant fields such as ethnography. The whole of the consultation, engagement and involvement approach has assisted in the design of the Programme overall.

## 11.0 WARDS AFFECTED

11.1 All wards are affected

Contact Officer: L Aisbett – Chief Executive  
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Date: 11 March 2013

Appendices: Appendix A – SLF Specification  
Appendix B – Request for Service Documentation.

Background Papers: Relevant Design Authority Notes.  
Reports and Notes of SLF Executive Group and Board.

Reference: X: C'tees, Council & Sub-C'tees/CSA/2012-13/20-03-13/LA – Support Leicestershire Families