

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

24 FEBRUARY 2015

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS CHILDREN'S SERVICES 2015/2016

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - PEOPLE

ABSTRACT

This report seeks committee approval of the proposed service level agreements with the voluntary sector providers for children's services.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee approves the service level agreements for children's services for 2015/16.

2 ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN AND SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement.

8 We have improved the health and wellbeing of our people and inequalities are reduced.

9 Individuals are supported in their own communities with good quality services.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Under the provisions of Section 4 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 a local authority may make arrangements for assistance in the performance of the functions assigned to it by organisations or persons who are able to do so. To facilitate some of these arrangements, Angus Council People Directorate enters annually into a range of service level agreements with a number of voluntary sector service providers.

3.2 These service level agreements facilitate the provision of a number of essential services through partnership working. Working in partnership with the voluntary sector is essential to the provision of effective and efficient services and brings added benefits for the people of Angus in terms of sharing skills and experience; generating new insights and solutions; and attracting additional sources of revenue funding. In a number of instances, external funding from other agencies is obtained by the providers on the strength of the commitment shown by Angus Council.

3.3 It should also be noted that the services provided under the service level agreements are subject to the monitoring arrangements as set out in the corporate standard for service level agreements. In addition all service level agreements require regular reporting on the level and quality of services provided which is actively monitored by staff within the People Directorate.

4 CURRENT POSITION

4.1 This report includes the general SLA's as although many are not only for adults they are the predominant service recipients. A review of service level agreements using the LEAN methodology is being carried out. There are a number of SLA's which are still being considered under this review which will be reported separately to Committee as soon as possible. This may result in a number of SLAs being re-designated as contracts and falling under different procurement processes.

4.2 The level of funding for 2015/15 is in line with the savings measured agreed by Angus Council in Report 84/14, February 2014.

- 4.3 Funding from the Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) is to be decided by the Partnership board in March therefore no increase has been made to ADP contributions.
- 4.4 Any increase in NHS Tayside's contributions will be in line with any nationally agreed uplift for Resource Transfer. No agreement has yet been reached on this and therefore no increase has been made to NHS contributions.
- 4.5 The funding provided by each agency is shown separately in each service level agreement.
- 4.6 The practice of The People Directorate awarding recurring grants to voluntary organisations via the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme has been discontinued and funding for these organisations is now provided via a shorter form of service level agreement. A list of these agreements is attached as Appendix 2 to this report.
- 4.7 The SLA with Tayside Council on Alcohol and the Web Project for a Mediation and Reparation service is not being renewed for 2015/16. This was identified as a Budget Saving Proposal in Committee Report Number 84/14 approved by Angus Council on 13 February 2014 and is linked to the review of the work of the Youth Justice Team

5 PROPOSALS

It is proposed to make the payments to voluntary organisations as detailed in this report.

6 PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

There are no implications arising from this report.

7 RISKS

There are no specific risks arising from this report.

8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total value of the service level agreements etc is:

ITEM	CATEGORY	AMOUNT
1	Children's Services	£525,617
2	TOTAL – SLA's	£525,617
3	Community Grants	£478
4	TOTAL	£526,095

This will be funded as follows:-

TABLE 2

ITEM	SOURCE	AMOUNT
1	People Directorate	£460,664
3	Resource Transfer from NHS Tayside	£25,031
4	Alcohol & Drugs Partnership	£40,400
5	TOTAL	£526,095

Provision for these sums has been made in the relevant revenue budgets.

9 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from the recommendations contained in this report.

10 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment has been undertaken.

11 CONCLUSION

Entering into the service level agreements listed in this report on a partnership basis with the voluntary sector helps ensure the provision of a range of essential social work and health services in Angus. This type of partnership working brings with it a range of benefits including a sharing of skills and expertise and the capacity to attract additional funding to Angus. Partnership working and the use of service level agreements is an essential aspect of the People Directorate's delivery of best value services to the most vulnerable individuals and families in Angus.

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NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

SW&H/LH/DS

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 Service Level Agreements
- Appendix 2 Grant Scheme Agreements

TABLE 3

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The proposed spend on service level agreements for Children amounts to £608,544. This is broken down in the following table.

ORGANISATION	FUNDING 2015/2016	SERVICE	ACTIVITY	2012/13	2013/14
Angus Special Playscheme	£29,905	Playschemes for children with disabilities aged 5 to 18 and youth scheme for young people with disabilities aged 12 to 18	Number of children receiving a service	33	36
Barnardo's Family Service Angus (refocused service) and Family Group Conferencing	£298,361	<p>To support children most in need to enable them to stay in their local communities.</p> <p>To support carers in meeting the needs of children recovering from abuse and neglect.</p> <p>(£12,486 of this funding is provided by NHS Tayside)</p> <p>Facilitate Family Group Conferences to develop care and support plans for young people who are or are at risk of becoming looked after and accommodated</p>	Number of referrals	48	64
			Family Group Conferencing referrals	57	59
Homestart Angus	£73,227	Support for families with children under-five (£12,545 of this funding is provided by NHS Tayside)	Total number of referrals	55	66
			Number of families receiving a service	48	84

TABLE 3 CONTINUED

ORGANISATION	FUNDING 2015/2016	SERVICE	ACTIVITY	2012/13	2013/14
Parent to Parent	£37,095	Support and advice for parents of children with additional support needs.	Number of families supported in their own homes	32	45
			Number of young people supported	17	16
			Referrals - Support and advice to families	57	60
			Referrals - Young persons advocacy	19	29
Web Project Streets Ahead Project	£45,680	<p>Provision of an intensive assessment, interventions and care service to young people aged 14 – 25 years who have problems as a result of substance misuse</p> <p>Education, advice and support to young people aged between 18 – 25 who are at risk in relation to sexual health (£40,400 of this funding is provided by Angus ADP)</p> <p>In 2012/13 four Migrant Worker drug and alcohol awareness road shows were held, and attended by 530 people. This was not repeated in 2013/14, hence the apparent drop in total attendances.</p>	Total number of new referrals	31	41
			Total number of education sessions	20	18
			Total attendance	1056	651
Who Cares? Scotland	£41,349	Advocacy and representation for young people and corporate parenting. Please note an additional £13,333 has been included in the SLA to replace funding from the Tayside GIRFEC Group.	Number of young people seen	13	18

TABLE 4
FORMER COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME – AGREEMENTS 2015/2016

The proposed spend on the former Community Grant Scheme amounts to £478 This is broken down in the following table.

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT	SERVICE
ChildLine Scotland (NSPCC)	£478	Provide a free confidential telephone helpline which is accessible to all children and young people.