

ANGUS COUNCIL

GRANT SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 17 JUNE 2025

WHOLE FAMILY WELLBEING FUNDING PROJECT

REPORT BY KIRSTY LEE, INTERIM DIRECTOR, CHILDREN, FAMILIES & JUSTICE

**1. ABSTRACT**

This report seeks approval for an increase in the maximum amount that can be distributed by VAA from the Whole Family Wellbeing Funding received from Scottish Government. The proposal relates to a portion of the grant and increasing the maximum amount that can be distributed. This will increase capacity in third sector and community supports for children and families and enable support to be provided at an early stage to prevent the need for escalation into more targeted services. The proposal meets the criteria for the Whole [Family Wellbeing Programme](#).

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES**

**Caring for our People**

- Reduce inequalities in all our communities
- Provide the best start in life for children
- Create more opportunities for people to live well and achieve their personal goals
- Improve physical, mental health and wellbeing

**3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Grants Sub-Committee: -

- (i) notes the previous decision of the Grants Sub-Committee on 25 March 2025 for Voluntary Action Angus (VAA) to disburse small grants of up to £5,000 per grant application from the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund and that a material change of circumstances has occurred making it appropriate for the disbursement of funding to be reconsidered;
- (ii) in light of the material change in circumstances detailed in paragraph 5.1 of this report, agrees to increase the maximum small grants amount that can be disbursed by VAA, referred to in (i) above, to £25,000 per qualifying application; and
- (iii) notes that officers delegated powers will be used to decide on larger Whole Family Wellbeing funding applications of up to £50,000 with an option to apply for a one-off payment of up to £20,000 to help with start-up costs.

**4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 At the Grant Sub Committee on 25 March 2025 the Committee agreed to approve the disbursement of Whole Family Wellbeing funding up to £100,000 in both 2025/26 and 2026/27 to Voluntary Action Angus (VAA) in order for VAA to disburse up to £5000 per qualifying application and noted that Officers delegated powers would be used to decide on larger Whole Family Wellbeing funding applications of up to £50,000.

**5. CURRENT POSITION**

- 5.1 Report 118/25 set out a proposal approved by the Grants Sub-Committee on 25 March 2025 in respect of the funding limits particularly in relation to the distribution of small grants by VAA. This was as follows:

Small grant funding (distributed by VAA) = Maximum £5,000 per grant application. Larger grant funding (distributed by Angus Council) = Up to £50,000 per application, with an option to apply for a one-off payment of up to £20,000 to help with start-up costs.

- 5.2 Since March, VAA and 'In Control' consultants have been undertaking focussed sessions with a variety of third sector agencies in preparation of making bids for WFW grants. There has been good engagement from the third sector. Feedback from this group has identified that the original small grant criteria (disbursement up to £5,000) is not sufficient for the type of bids that the third sector have been working on. VAA and 'In Control' have advised that such a constraint would significantly hinder the opportunity for innovation and would not support the delivery of meaningful or sustainable outcomes in line with the original aspirations of the programme. Whilst the Sub-Committee only made the decision on 25 March 2025, there has been a material change in circumstances following the further information obtained following this engagement and the Sub-Committee is now asked to change the limit of disbursement by VAA from up to £5,000 to up to £25,000.

## 6. PROPOSALS

- 6.1 It is requested that the Grants Sub-Committee agrees to the funding limits being amended as follows:

Small grant funding - £100k per year until 2027 (distributed by VAA) = **Maximum £25,000 per grant application**. Larger grant funding - £200k per year (distributed by Angus Council) = Up to £50,000 per application, with an option to apply for a one-off payment of up to £20,000 to help with start-up costs.

## 6.2 Monitoring & Evaluation

As previously detailed in Report 118/25, all funded projects will be required to participate in a structured monitoring and evaluation process to assess impact and inform future funding decisions.

### Reporting Requirements

- Monthly/Quarterly progress reports detailing activities, outputs, and outcomes
- Financial reporting to ensure transparency and accountability
- End-of-project evaluation to measure impact against WFWF priorities

Future updates will be reported through the Integrated Children's Service Partnership.

## 7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications to the Council arising from the recommendations of this report as all costs will be met from the Whole Family Well Being funding provided by the Scottish Government.

## 8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 There is no requirement for any addition to the corporate risk register.

## 9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

## 10. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

- 10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached.

## 11. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND WELLBEING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 A Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment has been carried out within the EIA.

## 12. CONSULTATION

- 12.1 The Director of Finance and Acting Director of Legal, Governance and Change were consulted in the preparation of this report.

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

**REPORT AUTHOR: Rebecca McNeil, Acting Service Leader, Children, Families and Justice**  
**EMAIL DETAILS: [childrenandlearning@angus.gov.uk](mailto:childrenandlearning@angus.gov.uk)**

Appendices:-

Appendix 1 – National Principles for Holistic Whole Family Support

Appendix 2 – Performance Reporting

Appendix 3 – EIA

**1. Non-stigmatising:** Support should be promoted and provided free from stigma and judgement. Services should be as normalised as accessing universal services.

**2. Whole Family:** Support should be rooted in GIRFEC and wrapped around about the whole family. This requires relevant join up with adult services & whole system, place based, preventative addressing inequalities.

**3. Needs based:** Support should be tailored to fit around each individual family, not be driven by rigid services or structures. It should cover the spectrum of support from universal services, more tailored support for wellbeing and intensive support (to prevent or in response to statutory interventions). Creative approaches to support should be encouraged.

**4. Assets and community based:** Support should be empowering, building on existing strengths within the family and wider community. Families should be able to 'reach in' not be 'referred to'. Support must be explicitly connected to locations that work for local families and the community, such as schools, health centres, village halls and sports centres.

**5. Timely and Sustainable:** Flexible, responsive and proportionate support should be available to families as soon as they need it, and for as long as it is required, adapting to changing needs.

**6. Promoted:** Families should have easy, well understood routes of access to support. They should feel empowered to do so and have choice about the support they access to ensure it meets their needs.

**7. Take account of families' voice:** At a strategic and individual level, children and families should be meaningfully involved in the design, delivery, evaluation and continuous improvement of services. Support should be based on trusted relationships between families and professionals working together with mutual respect to ensure targeted and developmental support.

**8. Collaborative and Seamless:** Support should be multi-agency and joined-up across services, so families don't experience multiple 'referrals or inconsistent support.

**9. Skilled and supported workforce:** Support should be informed by an understanding of attachment, trauma, inequality and poverty. Staff should be supported to take on additional responsibilities and trusted to be innovative in responding to the needs of families.

**10. Underpinned by Children's Rights:** Children's rights should be the funnel through which every decision and support service is viewed.

The following KPI's have been identified to show transformational change across Angus under the WFWF.

Here is an example of what organisations will be asked to report:

Children and Families at the centre

**Engaged in meaningful consultation and participation:**

Number of CYP involved in consultation and participation

Number of adults/parents/caregivers involved in consultation and participation

Number of families involved in consultation and participation

Evidence of joint decision making in support plans

Family consultation and participation embedded in systems and processes across sectors

**Availability and access**

**Requests for assistance:**

Number of pregnant women requesting support

Number of families with baby < 1 year requesting support

Number of families with child(ren) < 3 years requesting support

Method used to request assistance

Timescale between request and response

**Engagement, assessment and matching to services:**

Number of families declining support and reason why

Number of families engaged with assessment

Analysis of need

Numbers of families matched to services

Method used to communicate and match family with service

**Service delivery:**

Number of services supporting a family

Types of support provided to a family

Analysis of need and service delivery

Number of families in need of support out with "9 to 5" hours

Number of families completing programmes of support

**Improved outcomes:**

Number of families reporting improved outcomes

specific outcome measures for families:

- Family well-being is strengthened
- families increase resilience optimism autonomy and ability to meet their own needs
- increase confidence and self-esteem in children and parents
- parents achieve specific skills
- family has a sense of meaning and purpose
- family can establish and maintain healthy nurturing relationships with each other and extended support network
- families have improved engagement in community activities
- children's likelihood of remaining with family is increased
- a focus of a whole family approach to problem solving

**Family feedback (learning loop):**

Qualitative feedback from CYPF – an evaluation of service provision

Qualitative feedback from workforce of service providers

**Whole System Approach (WSA) and joined up support**

Whole systems approach is being used in key areas to manage change and strategy

Evidence of collaboration across sectors

Evidence of system change

Long term impact

**Workforce and culture**

Improved awareness of Whole Family wellbeing approach across the workforce

More practitioners and agencies are “thinking family”

Trauma Responsive Practices are embedded in practice

Support for service providers who wish to apply for WFW funding

Commissioning of services to meet the needs of the community

Grant Funding awards are successful