

ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL: OFFICER DECISION RECORD

1. Title / Subject Matter:

Acceptance of Holiday Activity and Food Grant

2. Decision Reference No:

PW/HW/01

3. Decision Taken:

Nottinghamshire County Council have allocated each local authority in Nottinghamshire monies to deliver part of the Holiday Activities and Food programme within their District. Ashfield District Council have been allocated £45,000.

The decision to accept this funding will enable the Council to co-ordinate a programme of Winter holiday clubs for children and young people aged 5 – 16 who are in receipt of free school meals.

4. Reasons for the Decision:

The Holiday Activities and Food programme has been developed by central government as a response to the inequalities that have been highlighted by the pandemic. Its purpose is to provide food and activities to children and young people, who may not have access to these during school holidays.

Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) organised a programme of activities during the Easter holidays, and have recognised that they need to further expand delivery in order to provide a greater number of opportunities. Building on the success of the Winter Grants Scheme, NCC have allocated funding to each District to enable councils to maximise provision through the relationships and partnerships with providers within each District.

NCC have provided an agreement, which outlines how the funding can be used which includes the expectations for the programme (delivery, standards, monitoring), and how the Council will receive the funding (80% upfront, 20% after receiving satisfactory monitoring).

The Council ran this project through the Summer, with over 1200 attendances. We have a bank of high-quality providers, who have expressed an interest in running the activities in December and we will utilise County Enterprise Foods to deliver a

hot meal to all participants. We have consulted with Corporate Comms. and have agreed that promotion will be directly into schools with high numbers of children in receipt of free school meals to avoid the negative comments received on social media during the summer. Comments were focused on the eligibility criteria and that not all children could attend.

5. Alternative Options Considered / Rejected:

An alternative option is to reject the funding. This was rejected as it would reduce the opportunity to expand the scheme and offer the provision to more eligible children and young people in Ashfield. Not recommended.

Another alternative would be to accept part of the funding. As part of the funding, we will need to provide monitoring returns. If we are unable to utilise all of the funding, NCC have included a clause in the agreement to reclaim unallocated funding. This negates the need to only accept part funding. Not recommended.

6. Implications

Corporate Plan:

Targeted health activities are a key part of the Corporate Plan. This provision aligns to place based and targeted working to help reduce the health inequalities that exist across Ashfield.

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications.

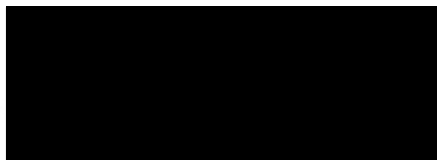
Legal:

No significant legal issues.

Financial: Costs of the project will be fully funded from within the approved £45,000 grant allocation.

Name / Title of the officer taking the Decision:

David Lawrence, Interim Director Place and Communities



Date: 25.11.2021

The completed form should be emailed to the Democratic Services Team:

democratic.services@ashfield.gov.uk

They will arrange for it to be published on the Council's web site.