

Central Area Council Procurement and Financial Update Report

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides members with an up-to-date overview of Central Area Council's current priorities, and provides an overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements and Grant Funded projects, with associated timescales.
- 1.2 The report outlines the financial position to date for 2022-23 and the projected financial position to 2023-24. Please note financial projections assume that the base income budget remains the same and that existing services are maintained.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 Members note the overview of Central Area Council's current priorities, and overview of all current contracts, contract extensions, Service Level Agreements and Well-being Fund projects, with associated timescales.
- 2.2 Members note the actual financial position to date for 2022-23 and the projected expenditure, including future proposals, to 2023-24 as outlined in Appendices 1 & 2 of this report.
- 2.3 Members agree Recommended Option 1a do not develop services to the previously earmarked £50k for environmental education and bring the funds back into the main commissioning budget
- 2.4 Members agree Recommended Option 2a to extend existing Social Isolation and Loneliness grants for a further year as follows:
- Age UK Grant Funding of My Community, My Life Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £42,000
 - Reds in the Community Grant Funding of Reds Connect Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £15,500
 - Mind Grant Funding of Thriving Communities Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £41,800
- 2.5 Members agree Recommended Option 3a to progress the commissioning of services via a 'Supporting Vulnerable People' Fund, with a financial envelope of £65,000 per year for two years, from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2025 (to also include the procurement Welfare Advice services within the scope).

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Members are also asked that this is progressed by the Area Manager, in conjunction with a panel made up of CAC Elected Members, with delegated responsibility for the procurement of these grants to the Executive Director.

- 2.6 Members agree Recommended option 4a to extend grants to maintain detached Youth Work as follows:
- The Youth Association, Grant Funding of Streetsmart Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £52,000
 - YMCA, Grant Funding of Detached Youth Work in Dodworth & Gilroyd from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £12,395.
- 2.7 Members agree Recommended Option 5a to commission a new CYP Emotional Resilience Service with a financial envelope of £140k.
Members are also asked that this is progressed by the Area Manager, in conjunction with a panel made up of CAC Elected Members, with delegated responsibility for the procurement of these grants to the Executive Director.
- 2.8 Members note the contingency budget of £33,446 as the forecasted carry forward balance as at 31st March 2025. This remains available to cover any unexpected risks to services and to ensure that the CAC can respond to emerging need.

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3. **Overview of Contracts and timescales** The table below outlines all the Central Area Council contracts, Service Level Agreements (SLA's) and grants **currently** being delivered, together with values, timescales and recent actions **agreed**:

Priority	Service/Fund	Provider	Value	From	To	Type
Social Isolation	Social Isolation Challenge Fund My Community, My Life Project	Age UK Barnsley	Two years funding: £79,187	01/04/21	31/03/23	Grant Agreement
Social Isolation	Social Isolation Challenge Fund Thriving Communities Project	Rotherham and Barnsley Mind	Two years funding: £ 79,165.17	01/04/21	31/03/23	Grant Agreement
Social Isolation	Social Isolation Challenge Fund Reds Connect Project	Reds in the Community –	Two years funding: £30,252.96	01/04/21	31/03/23	Grant Agreement
NOTE	<i>Procurement decisions against this priority agreed to 31st March 2023.</i>					
Children & Young People	CAC Commission Building emotional resilience and wellbeing in children and young people aged 8-14 years	Barnsley YMCA	Year 1 £135,000 Year 2 £136,468 Year 3 £140,330 <i>Commenced 2020 with option to extend for a further 1 year plus 1 year, subject to annual review</i>	01/04/20 01/04/21 01/04/22	31/03/21 31/03/22 31/03/23	Contract
Children & Young People	Youth Fund Street Smart	The Youth Association (TYA)	Year 1 £48,000 Year 2 £48,000 1m FOC Year 3 £49,440	01/06/19 01/06/20 01/06/21 01/07/21	31/05/20 31/05/21 30/06/21 30/06/22	Grant Agreement
Children & Young People	Youth Fund Detached Youth work	YMCA	Year 1 £12,000 <i>(amended dates)</i> Year 2 £13,303 <i>(amended and subject to approval)</i>	01/09/20 01/07/21	31/06/21 30/06/22	Grant Agreement
NOTE	Update on panel decision for future funding detailed in this report.					
Clean & Green	CAC Commission Creating a cleaner and greener environment in partnership with local people	Twiggs Grounds Maintenance	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 £110,000 per annum	01/04/22 01/04/23 01/04/24	31/03/23 31/03/24 31/03/25	Contract
Clean & Green	CAC Commission Targeted Household Fly Tipping Service	BMBC Service Level Agreement	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Cost: £35,000 per annum.	01/04/22 01/04/23 01/04/24	31/03/23 31/03/24 31/03/25	SLA
Clean & Green	CAC Commission Private Rented Housing Support Service	BMBC Service Level Agreement	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Cost: £35,000 per annum	31/03/23 31/03/24 31/03/25	31/03/23 31/03/24 31/03/25	SLA
NOTE	Please note that 50k per year for 2 years for Clean & Green Education was approved at CAC in July 2022 (budget available from 1 st April 2023)					

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Vulnerable People	Central Well-being Fund Hope House Connects	Hope House Church	Year 1 £13,913 Year 2 £14,000 Year 3 £14,420	01/07/19 01/07/20 01/07/21	30/06/20 30/06/21 30/06/22	Grant Agreement
Vulnerable People	Financial Resilience Funding Welfare Rights and Legal Advice Service	Citizens Advice Bureau Barnsley	Initial 6m pilot funding 6m £20,000 (£10k funded via Ward Alliances) 9m extension at a cost of £30k 9m extension at a cost of £30k <i>*Scaled back the model to extend to 31/03/23</i>	01/01/21 01/07/21 01/04/22	30/06/21 31/03/22 *31/03/23	Grant Agreement
Vulnerable People	Uplift project	Creative Recovery	Year 1 £15,000 Year 2 £15,000 <i>Funding agreed as match funding with Arts Council</i>	01/10/22	30/09/24	Grant Agreement
Vulnerable People & Social Isolation	Central Well-being Fund Advice Drop-In	DIAL Barnsley	Year 1 £30,000 Year 2 £30,000 Year 3 £30,900 Ext. £15,540 Ext. £7,725	01/07/19 01/07/20 01/07/21 01/07/22 01/01/23	30/06/20 30/06/21 30/06/22 31/12/22 31/03/23	Grant Agreement
NOTE						

4. Contract & Grant Financial Decisions

The Area Managers and expert colleagues facilitated Workshops for elected members focused around two CAC priorities:

1. 5th October 2022: Emotional resilience of Children and Young People
2. 19th October 2022: Supporting Vulnerable People (inc. Cost of Living and Welfare Advice Services)

The proposals recommended to this Area Council in Appendix 2 to this report and the associated budget provide the foundations around delivering the CAC's priorities in line with Barnsley 2030 and the Barnsley Plan.

5. **Clean & Green Education**

- 5.1 £50k per year for 2 years for Clean & Green Education was approved at CAC in July 2022 from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2025.
- 5.2 The need for this has now been surpassed as the Council is in the process of co-producing a Borough Wide Litter and Envirocrime Strategy. Alongside this it is anticipated that a community-led forum is going to support this workstream.

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5.3 26% of the Area Council budget is already being spent supporting Clean & green projects and the additional £50k per year results in a disproportionate amount of funding being spent on the Environmental Priority.

5.4 **Recommended Option 1a:** do not develop services to the previously earmarked £50k for environmental education and bring the funds back into the main commissioning budget

Option 1b: leave the £50k budget already earmarked to respond to issues emergent from the borough wide Litter and Envirocrime Strategy

6. Social Isolation & Loneliness

6.1 The Central Area Council Social Isolation programme was originally established by the Central Area Council for 2021-2024 to address the need for an overall co-ordinated Social Isolation and Loneliness Programme for the Central Area Council area.

6.2 A priority for the Central Area Council is to Reduce Social Isolation.

6.3 Up to date Business Intelligence presented to us from expert colleagues at the aforementioned CAC Members Workshop on 19th October informed the CAC that Loneliness and Isolation remains an issue across the lifespan of our residents and has a significant impact on people's wellbeing.

6.4 Our current services commissioned through grant arrangements target socially isolated, vulnerable, and lonely people living in the Central Area Council area.

6.5 All performance and monitoring is up to date from our commissioned services who delivery high quality services, are meeting or exceeding their milestones and targets and have their roots firmly down within the CAC geography.

6.6 All services are seeing an increase in demand for services with indications of a continued upwards trajectory.

6.7 As highlighted in appendix 1 to this report; delivery costs are rising due to the increased cost of living.

6.8 **Recommended Option 2a** is to extend existing Social Isolation and Loneliness grants for a further year with a small cost of living increase as follows:

- Age UK Grant Funding of My Community, My Life Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £42,000
- Reds in the Community Grant Funding of Reds Connect Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £15,500
- Mind Grant Funding of Thriving Communities Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £41,800

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Option 2b: Do not extend the existing grant and consider alternative options for the future of the Social Isolation Fund

7. Supporting Vulnerable People

- 7.1 Up to date Business Intelligence presented to us from expert colleagues at the aforementioned CAC Members Workshop on 19th October informed the CAC that the Cost of Living Crisis and the lasting impact of the Covid-19 pandemic is having a significant impact on our residents.
- 7.2 At the Area Council Meeting on 21st September, members considered the locality-based review of welfare services provision by Healthier Communities Colleagues.
- 7.3 CAB and DIAL have provided comprehensive and detailed performance report over the past 12 months. We have seen an increasing demand for services, particularly Welfare Benefits Advice.
- 7.4 Supporting Vulnerable People remains a priority for the Central Area Council
- 7.5 **Recommended Option 3a:** progress the commissioning of services via a Support Vulnerable People Fund, with a financial envelope of £65,000 per year for two years, from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2025 (to also include the procurement Welfare Advice services within the scope).

Members are asked that this is progressed by the Area Manager, in conjunction with a panel made up of CAC Elected Members, with delegated responsibility for the procurement of these grants to the Executive Director.

Option 3b: Do nothing and leave the funding in the main commissioning budget for progression at a later date

8. Children & Young People – Detached Youth Work

- 8.1 The Youth Work Fund was established by Central Area Council to deliver community-based and/or outreach/detached services for young people aged 13+ years across the Central Council area, to develop their social and life skills and strengthen emotional resilience, in preparation for a happy, healthy, and independent adulthood.
- 8.2 Our current services are commissioned via grant agreements who deliver community-based detached services for young people aged 13+ years across the Central Council area, to develop their social and life skills and strengthen emotional resilience, in preparation for a happy, healthy, and independent adulthood.

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8.3 Both the YMCA and the Youth Association provide excellent services that have consistent demand, they have provided regular performance monitoring information and have met or exceeded all milestones and targets.

8.4 **Recommended option 4a** is to extend grants to maintain detached Youth Work to March 2025 as follows:

- The Youth Association, Grant Funding of Streetsmart Project from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £52,000
- YMCA, Grant Funding of Detached Youth Work in Dodworth & Gilroyd from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 at a cost of £12,395 per year.

Option 4b: Do nothing and leave the funding in the main commissioning budget for progression at a later date

9. Children & Young People – Building Emotional Resilience in Children and Young People

9.1 A Task group to consider the “building emotional resilience and wellbeing in children and young people” priority area was established in August 2016. This Working Group was made up of 4 Central Area Council members, supported and facilitated by the Central Area Council Manager.

9.2 Further to this, services to build emotional resilience and wellbeing for children aged 8-14 years (Years 4-8) in the Central Council area have been commissioned via competitive procurement processes.

9.3 The YMCA are currently delivering the Unity Project and this contract is due to expire on 31st March 2023.

9.4 At the Workshop on 5th October, CAC Members heard presentations from Business Intelligence and Professional Colleagues and it was clear that there is still a real need for services to support the emotional resilience of children and young people.

9.5 Supporting the Emotional Resilience of Children and Young People remains a priority for the Central Area Council.

9.6 Strengthening services to support the future of our children and young people is a priority for the Council

9.7 **Recommended Option 5a:** Commission a new CYP Emotional Resilience Service with a financial envelope of £140k.

Members are asked that this is progressed by the Area Manager, in conjunction with a panel made up of CAC Elected Members, with delegated responsibility for the procurement of these grants to the Executive Director, to revise current service specification to ensure value for money and focus on needs

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Option 5b: Commission a new CYP Emotional Resilience Service with a reduced financial envelope in line with delivering a balanced budget

Option 5c: Do nothing and leave the funding in the main commissioning budget for progression at a later date

10. Contingency Budget

- 10.1 Members note the contingency budget of £33,446 is the carry forward balance as at 31st March 2025. This remains indicative based on maintaining services at the current level and remains available to cover any unexpected risks to services and to ensure that the CAC can respond to emerging need.

11. Financial Position

- 11.1 Based on updated information relating to existing CAC contracts, SLA's and Grant Agreements, Appendix 1 provides a revised position statement on CAC funding. It shows actual income and expenditure for 2021-22.

The 2022-23 figures provided remain indicative projections and may be subject to changes agreed as part of the ongoing procurement and contract management processes.

- 11.2 A finance overview with future projected expenditure for the period 2022 up to 2024 is attached for information featured in Appendix 2. This has been updated as at year-end and reconciled with Appendix 1 for accuracy.

Interventions being considered at today's meeting and other "informally agreed" services are shown in **amber**, with future potential proposals shown in **red**. There are no items for consideration at this meeting.

The 2022 to 2024 budget projections remain indicative projections and may be subject to changes agreed as part of the ongoing procurement and contract management processes.

The assumption is that the baseline budget remains the same year-on-year and this may be subject to change

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Finance Report – Actual income and expenditure

Appendix 2: CAC Budget Proposals to 2025