

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Delyth Curtis, Director of Children's Services
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor I. Taylor, Cabinet Member for Children's Services
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2014

## HEADSTART BID

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the budget implications for the Council concerning HeadStart.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree the in-kind budget commitments attached to this Project of £155,887 as outlined in the financial considerations.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Agreement to budget commitments is required to move the project forward.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? NO

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? YES

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To not agree budget commitments which will result in the project not taking place and the desired outcomes not being realised.

### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:  
'Tackle child poverty, raise aspirations and improve educational achievement'

## **5.0 Background Information**

- 5.1 HeadStart is a Big Lottery Fund (BLF) programme which forms part of the Fulfilling Lives Initiative along with the Better Start and Complex Needs programmes. HeadStart is aimed at increasing the resilience of young people aged 10-14 years with the long term aim of reducing the number of young people who develop mental health conditions. The programme focuses on four areas of a young person's life, their experiences in school, at home, in the community and their interaction with digital technology. Big Lottery Fund identified 12 Local Authorities and encouraged them to submit a stage 1 bid for £10,000 to support the development of the stage 2 bid, which accessed £500,000 over 18 months to deliver a pilot programme to address HeadStart desired outcomes. Blackpool was successful in both these bids and is currently implementing the delivery model. In total 10 of the 12 Local Authorities were successful at stage 2 and stage 3 will provide £10m over five years for 5 of the 10 Local Authorities.
- 5.2 The Council is the lead organisation for the stage 2 HeadStart Programme and has supported the development of a robust partnership with a range of relevant organisations to lead the management and governance of the programme and develop the stage 3 bid.
- 5.3 The delivery model for the project includes two clusters of schools, including one secondary school and two to three primary schools in each cluster, Highfield Humanities College and Marton and Roseacre Primary Sschools and Unity Academy with Claremont Primary School and The Willows. The schools will be the primary development points for the universal element of the programme with targeted interventions also being delivered in the family home and in the community.
- 5.4 The project will aim to create a whole system change by developing a cohesive emotional wellbeing strategy for young people, including the development of a single point of access for both Tier 2 and Tier 3 mental health support. A strong emphasis of the project will be in addressing attitudes to mental health, embracing the issue that mental health is everyone's health.
- 5.5 There is a robust commissioning process in place to identify a number of external organisations that will provide a range of services including on line counselling, CBT therapy, creative therapeutic programs, resilience programs, programs for families affected by substance misuse, peer mentor training and training programs for the workforce. HeadStart Advisors will support the delivery of the program in each cluster and work in the family homes will be supported by family support workers.
- 5.6 Young People have been at the heart of the program development, with large scale consultation taking place in addition to young people being involved in the co-

production of the bid. Moving forward, young people are fully embedded in the ongoing evaluation and governance structures over the next 18 months and will continue to shape and form the stage 3 bid.

- 5.7 The Partnership is made up of voluntary and community services, the Council, Public Health, health providers and education including the Educational Psychology Services. Governance will include operational and strategic forums that will eventually be embedded in existing governance structures.
- 5.8 Big Lottery Fund has acknowledged the lack of evidence available both nationally and internationally with regards to increasing the resilience of young people. The guidance for the 18 month pilot is to take an action learning approach and combine interventions with a strong evidence base alongside more creative and innovative new approaches. Evidence from the 10 local authorities will be gathered to create an evidence base that in the future can be implemented on a wider scale. External organisations will support the evaluation of interventions to ascertain which interventions are achieving the desired outcomes.
- 5.9 Blackpool HeadStart Outcomes at the end of the project
- Young people increase their resilience
  - The workforce feel confident to support young people with emotional well being issues
  - Young People who self-harm learn coping strategies to avoid attending hospital
  - Young people have a successful transition from primary school to secondary school
- 5.10 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**5.11 List of Appendices:**

None

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 As part of the bid submission, the parties agreed a draft Partnership Agreement to be presented by the Council as part of the bid application. The Council's Legal section is advising on the final Partnership Agreement

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 The HeadStart bid provides Big Lottery Grant funding to partners of £500,000 over the next 18 months. However, partners are also expected to invest matched-funding and Blackpool partners are proposing to contribute a further £279,416 (with the Local Authority share being an in-kind contribution of £155,887) over the 18 month project, bringing the total investment to £779,416.

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 The Project will require local performance reporting arrangements and there is a full plan for monitoring and learning. A Steering Group is established, chaired by the Head of Early Help at Blackpool Council. This group will be responsible for monitoring the bid finances and delivery programme. Blackpool Children and Young People's Partnership will play a key monitoring role on behalf of the Local Authority and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 The decision helps to deliver the Council's vision namely "We will build a Blackpool where aspiration and ambition are encouraged and supported. We will seek to narrow the gap between the richest members of our society and the poorest and deliver a sustainable and fairer community, of which our communities will be proud."

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None

**14.0 Key decision information:**

14.1 Is this a key decision? NO

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? N/A

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

**15.0 Call-in information:**

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? NO

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE**

**16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed: N/A Date approved: N/A

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1

**18.0 Executive decision:**

18.1

**18.2 Date of Decision:**

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

**20.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

20.1

**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes:**

22.1