

Report To: Health and Social Care Committee **Date:** 11 October 2018

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Partnership (HSCP) **Report No:**
SW/48/2018/SMcA

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Subject: Big Lottery: Women's Project Update

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Health and Social Care Committee on progress in the Women's Project.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 On 8th March 2018, Inverclyde HSCP was advised it had been successful in a bid to the Big Lottery Early Action Systems Change Fund in the category for Women and Criminal Justice.
- 2.2 Inverclyde HSCP is the only area from across Scotland that was successful in the category of Women and Criminal Justice.
- 2.3 The purpose behind the Early Action Systems Change is to help make a fundamental shift towards effective early intervention in Scotland.
- 2.4 The Inverclyde HSCP Women's Project aims to achieve a step change in the response to women in the criminal justice system. It seeks to build this response around the women themselves and the community, with the ambition of providing women with the support they need at a time and in a way that is right for them.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Health and Social Care Committee:
- a. Agrees the content of the report and the strategic direction presented in taking forward the Women's Project.
 - b. Requests a further report that updates how the HSCP is progressing with the project.
 - c. Delegates authority to the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) to submit a delivery plan to the Big Lottery in November.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Commission on Women Offenders (2012) championed the establishment of Women's Centres, aimed at improving consistent access to a range of specific services focused on the needs of women. To date these are located in large cities. There is a need to use learning from existing models of Women's Centres and develop a model that fits the needs of women in a small Local Authority setting.
- 4.2 Conversations with women involved in the criminal justice system in Inverclyde suggest that women have high levels of vulnerability and complex needs, as opposed to presenting a high risk of harm to others. The current intervention cycle can be one driven by crisis. In contrast, a more progressive approach would focus on early help.
- 4.3 This suggests that a broader conversation is needed, one which is not limited solely by a focus on justice. Indeed it points to a radical shift being required to the lens applied to women in the justice system, to one that encompasses a public health perspective and requires a whole systems approach.
- 4.4 Following a competitive assessment and application process, the HSCP was advised on 8th March 2018 that its application for £607,250, with an additional £75,000 test of change monies had been successful.
- 4.5 The funding secured covers a five year period and is split into two parts. The first is awarded to develop and research a plan for service redesign and the second part is awarded to begin transition and implementation and is conditional on developing a viable and adequately funded design for services. The Women's Project will employ three staff: a project manager, a community worker and a data analyst to provide additional capacity to bring about this whole system change.
- 4.6 Following the award decision, a project Steering Group has been established. This includes:
- CVS Inverclyde representation;
 - Turning Point Scotland representation;
 - Your Voice representation;
 - Alcohol and Drug Partnership representation;
 - Community Justice Partnership representation;
 - HSCP representation.
- 4.7 To date, the Steering Group has developed Terms of Reference and agreed the guiding principles for the project. A development session was also held that provided an opportunity to brain-storm ideas across the key stages of the project. In addition the Steering Group have agreed job descriptions and job specifications. Agreement has also been reached for the HSCP to host the Project Manager and Data Analyst posts while Turning Point Scotland will host the Community Worker post.
- 4.8 Currently the Steering Group is focusing on developing a Delivery Plan. This will be submitted to the Big Lottery on or before November 2018. There has also been a meeting with the Big Lottery on 11th September 2018 to clarify expectations around the content of the Delivery Plan. On approval, funding will be released and the recruitment process can begin.
- 4.9 There are six distinct phases for the project. These include:

Phase 1 – Recruitment of staff and establishing project.

Phase 2 – Research and participation of women to gain in-depth understanding of their lived experience of the criminal justice system and how this can be improved.

Phase 3 – Pulling together key findings from Phase 2 and constructing hypotheses and new models of support for women. Following stakeholder engagement, consensus will be reached on identifying one large test of change or a range of smaller tests of change.

Phase 4 – Piloting test(s) of change.

Phase 5 - Implementation of what has worked well in the tests of change.

Phase 6 – Evaluation of whole project and sustainability planning.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 5.1 The grant award amounts to £607,250, with an additional £75,000 test of change monies. With the exception of the test of change monies, this funding will be used to fund three posts: a Project Manager; Community Worker; and Data Analyst. These posts will be temporary and will initially cover a two year period, where the aim is to develop and research a plan for service redesign.
- 5.2 Projects are expected to aim at realising a shift in their organisational expenditure from acute services to early action approaches of somewhere in the region of 5%.

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs / (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Legal

- 5.3 There are no specific legal implications in respect of this report.

Human Resources

- 5.4 The grant will fully fund the three posts identified in the submission. Finance colleagues having been involved in the costings of these, and the posts themselves will be temporary in nature.

Equalities

5.5 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES (see attached appendix)
√	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Repopulation

5.6 There are no specific repopulation issues.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 This report has been prepared by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) after due consultation with statutory and third sector partners.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.