

Report To: Policy and Resources Committee **Date:** 21 March 2017

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Partnership **Report No:** SW/23/2017/BC

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Subject: AUTISM FRIENDLY INVERCLYDE DEVELOPMENT

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the Policy & Resources Committee that the proposed funding for Autism Friendly Inverclyde (150K) is delegated via the HSCP to Inverclyde's Autism Implementation Group to fund priority areas of development highlighted within Inverclyde's Autism Strategy and implementation plan.
- 1.2 To inform the Policy & Resources Committee of the established multi partnership Autism Implementation Group, funding sub-group and reporting structure established to take forward the priority areas highlighted within Inverclyde's Autism Strategy.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Policy & Resources Committee is asked to note that Inverclyde's Autism Strategy & Implementation Plan was developed in 2014 by the HSCP as part of a Scottish Government national initiative and highlights the priorities identified by service users, families, carers and partners in the development of an Autism Friendly Inverclyde.
- 2.2 The Policy & Resources Committee is asked to note that the Inverclyde Autism Strategy group is a partnership between statutory, third sector, service user and families group and is the decision making forum for progressing autism support in developing Inverclyde autism key priority areas identified through public engagement.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Policy & Resources Committee agrees that the proposed funding for Autism Friendly Inverclyde (150K) is delegated via the HSCP to the Inverclyde Autism Implementation Group to fund developments as highlighted within Inverclyde's Autism Strategy and implementation plan.

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4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Similar to a learning disability, Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects the way a person relates to people around them. People with Autism have difficulties in making sense of the world, forming relationships, difficulties with verbal and non-verbal communication and as such the difficulties experienced are on a spectrum with degrees of severity.
- 4.2 Inverclyde Autism Strategy was developed in 2014 by the HSCP as part of a Scottish Government national initiative. The Strategy was developed in partnership with people with ASD and their families. The Strategy lays out actions required over a 10 year period to improve the lives of people in Inverclyde with Autism.
- 4.3 The Inverclyde Autism Implementation Group (AIG) was set up in 2014 to oversee the implementation of the Inverclyde autism strategy. This strategy was published in 2014 to cover the ten-year period up until 2024. The strategy was based on a number of themes which would inform how it would be delivered. The main themes identified are:
- Developing positive, enabling and supportive networks
 - Developing a co-ordinated Autism Training Plan for Inverclyde
 - Equal and timely access to an evidence-based pathway for assessment and diagnosis and the support that should follow
 - A co-ordinated system for advice and information about autism
 - Co-ordinated services based on accurate data
 - Services that can be robustly evaluated
- 4.4 The AIG's prime role is to examine how these themes are being rolled out in Inverclyde and the impact they are having on people on the autistic spectrum.

The group is composed of practitioners from all sectors within Inverclyde including:

- Inverclyde HSCP – Adult and Children's services
 - Inverclyde Council
 - Education
 - Third sector organisations
 - Independent housing sector
 - Service users and carers
- 4.5 The group meets monthly and is currently chaired by the Partnership Integration Facilitator (PIF) working with the third sector interface (TSI) in Inverclyde who reports on the work of the group to the Learning Disability Strategic Implementation Group of the HSCP. The work of the AIG fits within the following strategic commissioning themes of the HSCP:
- Recovery and Support to live individually
 - Support for families
 - Inclusion and empowerment
 - Meaningful activities and employability
- 4.6 The AIG has established a funding sub-group consisting of three third sector providers and two officers from learning disabilities services within the HSCP and is chaired by the PIF. This sub-group has delegated authority from the AIG to develop funding proposals for ongoing and future service delivery of autism services in the area and reports back to the AIG.

- 4.7 The funding sub-group will develop funding proposals based on a collaborative partnership model whereby a lead agency will be identified to deliver the proposal but governed by a steering group of agencies who will both contribute to the effective delivery of the service and provide an outcome, monitoring and governance role. This has been agreed to all by all partners in the AIG and all successful funding proposals will be administered within this framework to ensure partnership working and accountability.
- 4.8 The AIG has identified transition from children to adult services as a major gap in service delivery within Inverclyde and such as a development priority for funding for the funding sub-group to develop proposals and subsequent funding applications.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 5.1 The proposal is that the funding is allocated via the HSCP and as such this will become a ring fenced part of the overall IJB resources.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
Earmarked Reserves	Autism Friendly	2017/19	150		

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments

Legal

- 5.2 There are no legal issues

Human Resources

- 5.3 None.

Equalities

- 5.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

Equality Impact Assessments have been carried out on the relevant plans that underpin the HSCP Strategic Plan.

	YES (see attached appendix)
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√	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.
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Repopulation

5.5 The proposal will improve services for people with Autism and their families.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 Inverclyde Autism Strategy Public Event 2014.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Inverclyde HSCP Autism Strategy 2014-24.