

**Winchester Supporting Families Programme**

**Local Funding Allocation: October 2015**

**Guidance**

**Introduction**

The Winchester Supporting Families Local Coordination Group (LCG) is inviting applications for grant funding from local organisations for projects that help deliver key programme outcomes for the benefit of families on the programme. Applications are particularly welcome for projects/services that address the following priority areas and service gaps:-

* Advice/support services for parents of teenagers
* ‘Light touch’ parenting support i.e. non-intensive
* Support for families affected by adult or child mental health issues
* Increasing access to specialist youth counselling services (i.e. below CAMHS threshold)

Applications are particularly welcome from organisations looking at innovative ways to complement and enhance existing support provision e.g. peer mentoring / buddying support approaches.

**Winchester Supporting Families Programme**

Winchester Supporting Families (WSF) is part of a major transformational programme in Hampshire aiming to make lasting positive changes to the lives of some of the most vulnerable families in the county. In Winchester the programme is being delivered by the multi-agency Local Coordination Group under the leadership of Winchester City Council.

For 2015/16, WSF has a target to identify and engage with 63 families living in the Winchester District – the target for Hampshire as a whole is 1,100 families. Eligibility for inclusion on the programme is dependent on a willingness to engage (the programme is voluntary) and assessment against a set of criteria relating to:-

* Education – poor school attendance and/or exclusions
* Crime and anti-social behaviour – by adults and/or children in the family
* Children who need help – pre-school children failing to thrive, children going missing, families identified via Early Help Hubs
* Employment and risk of financial exclusion – adults out of work, young people at risk of becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), families at risk of homelessness, and families with unmanaged debts
* Domestic violence and abuse – victims (adults and/or children) and perpetrators of domestic violence/abuse
* Families with health problems – adults and/or children with mental health difficulties (primarily tiers 1 and 2), adults and/or children with drug and alcohol problems or adults and/or children with unhealthy weights / nutrition concerns

To be considered for inclusion on the programme, families **must** meet **at least 2** of the 6 criteria.

**Features of this funding**

* The priorities for funding set out in the introduction have been identified through an analysis of the needs of families already on the programme, feedback from a local stakeholder event, and a review of the availability of local services and support to meet those needs.
* This is **one-off funding** for existing or new projects
* This is outcome-based funding - in other words proposals should **relate directly to the needs of families on the programme** and be able to produce measurable outcomes against the headline indicators that have been agreed across Hampshire and incorporated within the single family plans (blank example attached).
* An assessment panel will consider all qualifying applications. Proposals will be prioritised according to the potential to make a measurable, positive and sustained difference to **families on the programme** against the agreed headline indicators. The panel will also be interested to hear about the potential for developing innovative practice, and / or improved partnership working that complements existing support provision.

**When to apply?**

The scheme is open now and will close on **Monday 23 November**. Completed applications should be sent to lronan@winchester.gov.uk and copied to bambrose@winchester.gov.uk – no hard copies please.

The funding will be available to fund projects **which will be delivered by 30 September 2016.**

**Grant criteria and eligibility**

Applications can be made by statutory, voluntary, community and not for profit organisations based in the Winchester District, including:

* local authorities
* registered and unregistered charities
* voluntary and community groups
* faith organisations
* social enterprises
* schools

Partnerships made up of these groups are also able to apply.

**Who we can’t fund**

The following are not able to apply for grant funding:

* Individuals
* Organisations already commissioned for the same service/project via a contract or grant agreement from Hampshire County Council or Winchester City Council
* Organisations already commissioned to deliver ‘Transform’, the Intensive Family Support Service within Hampshire

**To be eligible for support the organisation must:**

* Provide evidence that there is an identified need for the service
* Provide evidence that the service will not duplicate existing provision
* Provide a statement of the expected outcomes and benefits of the service to families on the programme
* Provide evidence that the organisation has a recognised legal structure
* Have a robust safeguarding policy in place for children and vulnerable adults

**Financial issues**

The total available grant funding is £35,000.

There is no minimum or maximum amount of grant that can be requested by individual applications. However, organisations will need to explain in their application how their project will be modified if a grant was only partially awarded.

Grants awarded must be spent solely for the purposes outlined in the application. We reserve the right to reclaim any funding that fails to meet this condition.

**Audit and reporting**

If successful, organisations will be required to sign a grant agreement and supply bank details. Successful projects will be required to complete a six month and end of year (or end of grant as appropriate) self-monitoring progress report to demonstrate how the project is being delivered and whether the proposed outcomes and targets are being met.

**Further information**

If you have any questions or wish to discuss a proposal prior to submitting a formal application, please contact:

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