

Whole Family Early Intervention Fund – Funding approved.

3 With reference to the minutes of 20th June 2024 (page 79 hereof) approving the creation of a Whole Family Early Intervention Fund (WFEIF) to align the use of specific financial allocations, Councillor Bell, Depute Leader of the Council, City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion, presented a report regarding an update on the use of the fund, advising that

- (1) the WFEIF currently had a total of £22.1m of funds to be used across the next 3 years, subject to further dialogue with the Scottish Government;
- (2) the Children Services Executive Group (CSEG) would ensure that broad proposals were in line with the Fund's principles and initiate the necessary process to reach recommendations for funding using the Council's Cost-of-Living Crisis' process which had been developed in partnership with Internal Audit;
- (3) the CSEG had endorsed a proposal to shape a 12-month test of change that would inform the modernisation of the city offering and that investment in this work met the agreed criteria for funding from the WFEIF;
- (4) 16 of the city's recognised financial inclusion providers had been invited to respond to the service specification and following an assessment process, it was proposed that GEMAP be awarded £360,000 of funding to deliver the test of change;
- (5) funding for the Emotionally Based School Non Attendance service which supported children and young people unable to attend mainstream school had ended on 30th June 2024, however there was a requirement to extend this service whilst the exploration of longer term solutions was explored by CSEG; and
- (6) 4 organisations had been invited to respond to the specification for the provision of an Emotionally Based School Non Attendance service, however only 1 response had been received and following assessment it had been identified as the preferred provider and the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Finance under Delegated Authority had approved an award of £90,631 to Quarriers.

After consideration, the committee

- (a) approved £360,000 of funding to GEMAP to deliver the test of change; and
- (b) noted the allocation of £90,631 of funding to Quarriers for the provision of an Emotionally Based School Non Attendance service.