

Establishment of Child Poverty Pathfinder and Whole Family Early Intervention Fund approved.

4 Councillor Bell, Depute Leader of the Council, City Treasurer and City Convener for Financial Inclusion, presented a report regarding an overview of the work undertaken to expand the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund (WFWF), advising

- (1) of the aims of the £19.4m WFWF, an allocation of which the Council had accepted from the Scottish Government in March 2023 to transform the way that family support was delivered, and that the programme prioritised early intervention and prevention, and demanded a collaborative, multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approach to funding;
- (2) of the foundation themes of the WFWF plan in Glasgow that had been developed following extensive consultation and co-design with public and third sector stakeholders;
- (3) of the work undertaken to date on child poverty in Glasgow, which remained significantly higher than the Council's statutory target of less than 10% of children in relative poverty by 2030;
- (4) of the alignment of policy and that a new post of Programme Director of Whole Family Wellbeing and Child Poverty had been created for a fixed term of 2 years as it was recognised that the significant programme of work, as detailed in the report, required additional leadership capacity to oversee development and implementation;
- (5) of the work that had been undertaken to bring together appropriate funding allocations which had created the Whole Family Early Intervention Fund (WFEIF), which currently totalled £22.1m and could be used across the next 3 years, subject to further dialogue with the Scottish Government;
- (6) of the agreed focus of the WFWF which would form the foundations for use of the WFEIF, as detailed in the report;
- (7) that the Child Poverty Steering Group would provide the appropriate internal corporate governance as well as continuing to provide corporate and strategic direction to both the WFEIF and the Council's contribution to addressing child poverty;
- (8) that a number of opportunities had emerged over the last year to invest in activities that align with the criteria for the WFEIF and a number of early awards, as detailed in an appendix to the report had been made using the existing Cost-of-Living Crisis Funding process; and
- (9) of the next steps, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the committee

- (a) approved

- (i) the creation of a Whole Family Early Intervention Fund to align the use of specific financial allocations; and
 - (ii) the governance arrangements for the Fund; and
- (b) noted
 - (i) the update to the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund award;
 - (ii) the progress made to secure policy alignment in relation to child poverty within the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2024-34;
 - (iii) the allocations made to date from the Whole Family Early Intervention Fund and the impact secured; and
 - (iv) that progress reports would submitted to the appropriate Committee.

Councillors Ruairi Kelly and Anne McTaggart noted an interest in this item.