
Equality Assessment of MSG Roll-Over Funding Proposals 2015: Funding Stream

Children and Families Services: Proposal to extend or discontinue Main Stream Grant (MSG) beyond 31st March 2015.

Section 1

Service Area	Commissioning and Health, ESCW
Service Manager	Karen Badgery, Children's Commissioning Manager, ESCW
Name and role of the officer/s completing the analysis	Stephanie Ford, Programme Manager, D&R. Karen Badgery, Children's Commissioning Manager, ESCW Rob Driver, Senior Strategy Performance and Policy Officer, GLP

<p>Priorities/Objectives <i>State how the funding stream relates to tackling inequality (for example, advice services can help mitigate impact of deprivation; lunch clubs reduce social isolation, sports increase health and wellbeing etc);</i></p>	<p>The Children, Schools and Families funding stream assists with the delivery of the Council's Community Plan and Children and Young People's Plan Priorities. It seeks to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver targeted services to vulnerable children and families with the aim of building resilience and preventing problems escalating • Facilitate networking/partnership opportunities between those agencies providing services to children and young people to maximise the support available • Provide flexible services, including on an outreach basis to ensure ease of access <p>Projects depict a wide range of social interventions, addressing issues (amongst several others) such as family breakdown resolution, help for those experiencing domestic violence, family advocacy (including bi-lingual advocacy), support to women offenders and survivors of sexual abuse.</p> <p>Whilst many projects are universal in that they are accessible to all sections of the community, those that target specific groups fill a gap in provision for those that would otherwise face issues around social isolation.</p>
<p>Background</p>	<p>The need identified in the previous MSG EA remains relevant. Tower Hamlets is one of the most deprived boroughs in the country, and families face a number of challenges which can impact on the life chances of children and young people and sometimes lead to referrals into specialist services such as children's social care. This funding stream includes a broad range of services targeted at specific needs as identified. Including vulnerable children, young people and their families.</p> <p>The majority of services are specifically targeted at equalities target groups including BME communities (delivering culturally sensitive services), girls and women, disabled children and young people and lesbian and gay young people. Others provide support for families to prevent family breakdown. All remaining services are open to all communities and groups.</p>

Section 2

<p>Reasons for Change <i>In brief please explain the proposal and the reasons for this change (Summary)</i></p>	<p>This equality assessment refers only to those projects not recommended for extended funding (see detail in section 6).</p>
<p>Impact</p>	
<p>Funding Stream Assessment Outcome</p>	

Total no of Projects funded	22
Number of projects recommended for roll-over funding:	20
Number of projects not recommended for roll-over funding	2
Number of projects now closed – Grant Terminated	0

Impact Summary

Summarise any overall impact of the assessment on the various groups with protected characteristics

Decision



Red/Amber/Green

It is not expected that closure of the projects listed below (see section 6) will have an adverse equalities impact (based on the need established and equalities objectives identified within the initial equalities assessment undertaken for this theme). This is primarily due to the failure of projects to deliver, and also due to significant alternate provision available via the MSG programme. The MSG 2013-15 programme was characterised by lots of small projects, receiving small amounts of money – this has limited the equalities impact of project failure.

There are two projects within this theme that are not recommended to receive extended funding; CFS 30 – Childs Play and CFS -31 Recently diagnosed VIPS. Both target young people with visual impairment. Had either of these projects been able to demonstrate a positive impact for target users, there may have been an adverse impact of these projects not receiving extended funding. However, there is existing borough wide provision for young people with visual impairment. Therefore, there is no adverse equalities impact identified.

It is not expected that failure to receive extended funding will have an adverse equalities impact on the organisation (Royal Institute for the Blind), as funding awarded was relatively small. However, given monitoring information received, this is difficult to ascertain. There is one other project within the wider MSG programme delivered by the Royal Institute for the Blind that will receive further funding. This is a national organisation and is not based within the borough.

Section 3

Equality Impact Assessment

Target Groups What impact will the proposal have on specific groups of service users or staff?	Impact ✓ - Positive ✗ - Adverse 0 = Neutral	Reason(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and, • Describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform decision making
Race	0	The programme will continue to predominantly support Bangladeshi and other BME communities. See projects CFS – 04, CFS-05, CFS-06, CFS-10, CFS-12, CFS-15, CFS-16, CFS-17 and CFS-19. A small number of services are open to all communities and all programmes aim primarily to improve the life chances of children, young people and families.
Disability	0	Two projects that support young people with SEN/disability (CFS 30 & 31 – support to young people with visual impairment) are recommended not to receive roll over funding. This is due to issues developing the projects and no demonstrable delivery. It is considered that the impact to service users of these projects not receiving roll over funding will be negligible, given the projects have failed to deliver and the mainstream provision available within the borough. Roll over funding would continue to support a number of projects which support young people with SEN/disability (CFS 15, CFS 20, CFS 19, CFS 32).
Gender	0	The overall portfolio of services recommended for funding support both boys and girls. There are no proposals to not allocate roll over funding to any projects that currently support only boys or only girls.
Gender Reassignment	0	There are no projects specifically supporting young people or families dealing with gender reassignment issues, including those projects not recommended to receive extended funding.
Sexual Orientation	0	There are no proposals to not allocated extended funding to any projects that currently support young

		LGBT people.
Religion or Belief	0	All projects are culturally sensitive to the communities that they serve, which included taking account of religion and belief. The projects which have been identified as not eligible for extended funding do not have a particular focus with regard to religion or belief.
Age	0	The roll over programme would remain targeted at young people and families.
Marriage and Civil Partnerships.	0	N/A
Pregnancy and Maternity	0	N/A
Other Socio-economic Carers	0	The programme remains focused on providing support children, young people and families with multiple needs with the aim of improving overall outcomes and future life chances.

Section 4: Equality Impact Assessment Action Plan

Please list in the table below any adverse impact identified and, where appropriate, steps that could be taken to mitigate this impact.

If you consider it likely that your proposal will have an adverse impact on a particular group (s) and you cannot identify steps which would mitigate or reduce this impact, you will need to demonstrate that you have considered at least one alternative way of delivering the change which has less of an adverse impact.

Adverse impact	Please describe the actions that will be taken to mitigate this impact
N/A – No adverse impact has been identified.	

If an adverse impact cannot be mitigated please describe an alternative option, its costs and the equality impact.

Section 5: Future Review and Monitoring

Please explain how and when the actual equality impact of these changes will be reviewed and monitored.

There has been no adverse impact identified.

Section 6 – Project Information**A. Overview of all projects funded 2013-20-15 (No. 22)***(* indicates organisation was assess as not meeting the quality criteria)*

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery
CFS-01	YP whose lives are affected by sexual abuse	Borough wide
CFS-02	Women and teenagers requiring parenting support.	E1
CFS-03	Women offenders & their children (under 5s)	E1
CFS-04	Somali & BAME families where children are at risk of reduced educational attainment.	E1 and E2
CFS-05	BAME families requiring support relating to healthy eating and lifestyles.	E1
CFS-06	Bangladeshi families (particular women at risk of DV and other issues)	E1 & E2
CFS-07	Trafficked women & children & domestic violence victims	Borough wide
CFS-09	BME groups attending Muslim Centre requiring support with improving school attendance and attainment.	E1 and E2
CFS-10	BME families at risk of breaking down.	Borough wide
CFS-11	Early intervention programme working with children under five years focusing on the specific needs of vulnerable, hard to reach families.	E3
CFS-12	Multi-lingual advocacy for Bengali, Chinese, Somali & Vietnamese communities.	Borough wide
CFS-15	BME young people and others with special needs and their carers	Borough wide
CFS-16	Bangladeshi families requiring counselling.	Borough wide
CFS-17	Vietnamese families, special needs young people aged 16-18 years	Borough wide
CFS-18	Provides a safe place for hundreds of vulnerable children. Free to use and children of all ages can attend, coming along by themselves, with siblings or in family groups.	E1
CFS-19	Bangladeshi YP with disabilities and their families.	E2
CFS-20	Complementary schooling to support local children	E1
CFS-27	YP 5-14 years experiencing difficulties at key transition points.	E1
CFS-30	Parents/carers of a blind child aged 0-5	Borough wide
CFS-31	Blind/partially sighted TH residents aged 14-25	Borough wide

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Delivery
CFS-32	Families with newly diagnosed blind/partially sighted children	Borough wide
CFS-33	Provide a wide range of information and workshops targeting adults from disadvantaged backgrounds practically those suffering or at high risk of suffering from health related conditions	

B. Overall summary of projects recommended for extension (13)

Ref	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output (Extension Period)
CFS-01	YP whose lives are affected by sexual abuse	Borough wide	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-02	Women and teenagers requiring parenting support.	E1	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-03	Women offenders & their children (under 5s)	E1	Amber – 3 month rollover
CFS-04	Somali & BAME families where children are at risk of reduced educational attainment.	E1 and E2	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-05	BAME families requiring support relating to healthy eating and lifestyles.	E1	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-06	Bangladeshi families (particular women at risk of DV and other issues)	E1 & E2	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-07	Trafficked women & children & domestic violence victims	Borough wide	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-09	BME groups attending Muslim Centre requiring support with improving school attendance and attainment.	E1 and E2	Amber – 3 month rollover
CFS-10	BME families at risk of breaking down.	Borough wide	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-11	Early intervention programme working with children under five years focusing on the specific needs of vulnerable, hard to reach families.	E3	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-12	Multi-lingual advocacy for Bengali, Chinese, Somali & Vietnamese communities.	Borough wide	Green – 5 month rollover

CFS-15	BME young people and others with special needs and their carers	Borough wide	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-16	Bangladeshi families requiring counselling.	Borough wide	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-17	Vietnamese families, special needs young people aged 16-18 years	Borough wide	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-18	Provides a safe place for hundreds of vulnerable children. Free to use and children of all ages can attend, coming along by themselves, with siblings or in family groups.	E1	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-19	Bangladeshi YP with disabilities and their families.	E2	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-20	Complementary schooling to support local children	E1	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-27	YP 5-14 years experiencing difficulties at key transition points.	E1	Green – 5 month rollover
CFS-32	Families with newly diagnosed blind/partially sighted children	Borough wide	Amber – 3 month rollover
CFS-33	Provide a wide range of information and workshops targeting adults from disadvantaged backgrounds practically those suffering or at high risk of suffering from health related conditions		Green – 5 month rollover

Commentary:

Out of the initial 22 projects, most are performing well. Of the 20 recommended to receive extended funding, 3 are currently rated as amber, and therefore only recommended to receive a further 3 months funding at this time.

C. Projects **not recommended** for extended funding (2)

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Key Considerations			
		Impact ✓ - Positive ✗ - Adverse 0 = Neutral What impact will the proposal have on specific groups of service users or staff?	Performance	Geographical	Mitigation
CFS-30	Parents/carers of a blind child aged 0-5	0 = Neutral	The project has been delayed due to a lack of participation from the client group. A meeting to discuss outreach initiatives with the project officer responsible for this area has not yielded any further progress.	Borough wide	The support for learning service within the Council provides similar support to visually impaired children.
CFS-31	Blind/partially sighted TH residents aged 14-25	0 = Neutral	The project was also delayed due to a lack of participation from the client group. A meeting to	Borough wide	The support for learning service within the Council provides similar support to visually

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Key Considerations			
		Impact ✓ - Positive ✗ - Adverse 0 = Neutral What impact will the proposal have on specific groups of service users or staff?	Performance	Geographical	Mitigation
			discuss outreach initiatives with the project officer responsible for this area has not yielded any further progress.		impaired children.
<p>Commentary: It is not thought that there will be an adverse impact on service users by not extending funding to the above projects. Primarily because they have not delivered any meaningful outcomes, but also because there is significant mainstream provision for the targeted group (visually impaired children and young people).</p>					

D. Projects that gave notice to terminate their Grant Agreement and are now closed (0)

No	Beneficiary Target Group	Geographic Area/s of Proposed Delivery	Anticipated Output/Users per annum
Commentary:			