

REPORT TO: Cabinet

MEETING DATE: 12 June 2012

BY: Executive Director (Services for People)

SUBJECT: Payments to Voluntary Organisations – Children’s Wellbeing 2012-2013

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek approval for the payment to voluntary organisations of the amounts specified, for the financial year 2012-2013.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to agree to award grants, for 2012-2013, as shown in Appendix 1 of this report. Members are also asked to note that, except where indicated, these awards are based on grants made to these organisations in 2011-2012. There has been no uplift to funding for the year 2012-2013.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Section 10 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 allows local authorities to make grants to voluntary organisations whose sole purpose is to promote social welfare.
- 3.2 The council also has the power to purchase certain services, which it is obliged to provide, from the independent sector using other funding streams. Under certain circumstances the council can tender for such services, for example Who Cares? Scotland providing advocacy and support to children and young people who are looked after away from home, in foster care or residential care.
- 3.3 A summary of the organisations to be funded for 2012/13 is attached, along with the amount provisionally allocated.
- 3.4 It should be noted that some voluntary organisations have been allocated levels of funding that are lower than requested. For example, Richmond’s Hope, a voluntary organisation providing a bereavement service for children, has approached the council for funding for the third

year but it has not been possible to award any grant in view of the Service's budget allocation for 2012/13.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no immediate policy implications arising from this report. The framework for the purchasing and commissioning of services for children that are provided by the voluntary sector has previously been shared with Members and ensures governance arrangements are in place and helps to deliver best value.
- 4.2 Education and Children's Wellbeing have developed a Commissioning Strategy for East Lothian's Children. This will inform the commissioning of services and procurement for Education and Children's Wellbeing in 2013-2014.

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial -This report proposes awards of funding to voluntary organisations for 2012-2013, at a total cost of £850,731. Resources to support the recommendations in this report are contained in the Education and Children's Wellbeing budget for 2012-2013.
- 6.2 Personnel -There are no personnel implications arising from this report.
- 6.3 Other - None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Summary of financial assistance provided to voluntary organisations and sources of funding (Appendix 1)

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Grants to Voluntary Organisations – Children’s Wellbeing – Summary Position

APPENDIX 1

Organisation	2011/12 Award	2012/13 Request	Recommended for 2012/13	Notes	Funding Source
<p>East Lothian Special Needs Playscheme. Provision of specialist school holiday playschemes (Easter, summer, October) for about 70 East Lothian children with a range of complex and enduring needs providing social recreation for the children and respite for their families. Playschemes located at North Berwick, Prestonpans and The Hub, Tranent. Use over 100 volunteers each year. Majority recruited from local secondary schools and further education colleges – providing them with experience and training. Seeking additional £20,000 funding for the Hub, Tranent. This is Playscheme for children with most complex and enduring needs. Cost per annum circa £25,000. Funding in place for 2012-2013 but not secure thereafter. User Feedback raised Waiting List issue -up to 3 years. Once children get place feedback from parents and professionals excellent.</p>	£62,955	£62,955 plus additional £20,000 funding for the Hub Playscheme Transport for all 3 playschemes up to £39,908	<p>£62,955 + transport costs (up to £39,908) £102.863</p>	Negotiating a 3 year Service Level Agreement.	Children Ext Prov (5036)
<p>Scottish Adoption Association Colleagues at Scottish Adoption provide valuable expertise in this complex aspect of family placement work. The agency focuses on the recruitment of prospective adoptive parents. They also have expertise in the area of Post Adoption Support. The Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007 has placed increased expectations on local authorities to offer post adoption support. The independence they offer in some cases is extremely helpful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provide adoption placement for 1 child 0-8 years per annum at reduced rate to spot purchase price £27,000 · Adoption Counselling for adopted adults. Positive feedback from Children's Wellbeing about level of support from workers · Positive Care Inspectorate Inspection reports latest 2010 – Very Good 	£24,500	£25,000	£25,000	Propose another annual Service Contract letter starting 1 st April 2012.	S10 - Children Ext Prov (5036)

<p>St Andrew's Children's Society Colleagues at St Andrew's Children's Society have also developed specialist expertise in the recruitment of adopters and post adoption support. They provide Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic adopters. Children whose birth parents request placement with adopters of Roman Catholic faith are first referred to St Andrew's. There is added value in having separate Service Contracts with both adoption agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provide adoption placement for 1 child 0-8 years per annum at reduced rate to spot purchase price. · Post placement support after one year is covered in placement price · Prospective adopters matched with East Lothian child will be provided with 4 days SafeBase training at no extra cost. Spot purchase price is over £1000. · Pre Adoption work with relinquishing women/parents with Roman Catholic heritage · After Adoption Support/Adoption Counseling can be spot purchased · Feedback: Positive support to adopters/good communication · Service Manager is one of our Adoption Panel chairs providing valuable independence · Positive Care Inspectorate Inspection reports latest Feb 2012- Very Good 	£18,850	£21,000	£21,000	Propose a Service Level Agreement for a year starting 2012. The cost of spot purchasing an adoption placement (BAAF Interagency Fees) is £27,000.	Payments to Voluntary Organisations
<p>Places for People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Voluntary Housing Support Agency · Providing support to young people 16-25 with care background or mental health issues to develop skills in independent living including how to manage a tenancy · Tenancies in Edinburgh · One to one support provided to 2 East Lothian young adults - staff very skilled and helpful at working with young adults (Children's Wellbeing feedback) 	£9,500	£9,500	£9,500	Number of East Lothian young adults waiting for service.	S10 - Children Ext Prov (5036)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Group support via Drop in Centre and planned activities . Demand continues for these places despite the tenancies provided being in Edinburgh. . Very positive feedback from Children's Wellbeing Throughcare After Care Team . Care Inspectorate inspection report in Sept 2010 graded Excellent 					
<p>Children 1st - Family Group Conference Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Three year Service contract in place until March 2012 has been extended for a year with option of additional year. . Currently exploring a shared SLA with Midlothian. · 1 full time FGC Co-ordinator · Cases prioritised are children in danger of being Looked After away from home, Looked After away from home Children and children where permanent care plans are being explored. · Opportunity to explore whether there is a safe solution to the child's future care and support within the family · Family Plan is reviewed · Established project within Children's Wellbeing. Feedback positive, sometimes felt time from referral to FGC too long. · 4 Children's Services staff are trained FGC Co-ordinators and this enables us to offer this focus of working to more families in East Lothian. 	£46,240.	£46,240	£46,240	Children 1st make contribution of an additional 20%.	SLA – Partnership funding (5041)
<p>Who Cares? Scotland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 3 year Service Contract (2008-2011)– Have extended contract for 1 year whilst explore Shared Service Level Agreement with Midlothian. · Providing advocacy and support to children and young people who are Looked After away from home, in foster care or residential care (25 hours) · Who Cares? Scotland provides 365 day cover · Obtain feedback from service users about services offered, including exit interviews when young people have a placement ending using a range of consultation methods. . Facilitate focus groups of Young People e.g. Corporate 	£33,817.50	£33,818	£33,818		SLA - CCSF & 5036

<p>Parenting agenda, involvement of young people in recruitment and selection of professional staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Permanent post holder due to resume in August 2012 · Generally positive feedback from Children's Wellbeing staff re service provided. 					
<p>Family Mediation Lothian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provides information, advice and mediation to families experiencing difficulty as a result of separation and divorce. Focus on supporting children including groupwork. · One parent must live in East Lothian · Service operates 7 days per week · Sustain contact arrangements between parents and their children and young people · Supervised Child Contact Centre in East Lothian is Olivebank, Musselburgh – 5 other centres in Lothians · 44 families and 59 children used Musselburgh contact centre · Me2 Project for 12-18 years – self referrals and some made by Children's Wellbeing. · 60 Client Intake appointments from East Lothian · 26 Family Mediation appointments from East Lothian 	£9,740	£10,000	<p>£8,780 + £960 recharge to Olivebank £9740</p>	<p>Request for reimbursement of £960 to cover heating and lighting costs of Olivebank, by budget holder. Family Mediation advised this has been reduced from Grant from 1st April 2012.</p>	<p>S10 Children Ext Prov (5036)</p>
<p>Star Youth Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Weekly youth club at North Berwick Community Centre for young people with complex and enduring needs aged 12 – 18 years, transport provided, valued by families · S10 grant contributes £47.36 per member per year · Positive feedback from young people. · Provide a residential weekend for young people– video evidences enjoyment of all who attend · Established and well thought of provision · Run by experienced workers and 15 volunteers per session · Operates a waiting list system in preference to assessment of need resulting in a long wait for placement (2-3 years) · Children's Wellbeing, feedback very positive about provision 	£1,180	£5,000	£1,180	<p>To be included as part of Service Contract with East Lothian Playschemes.</p> <p>Also receive £2,500 from Community Wellbeing for Star Youth Club and £2,100 from Community Wellbeing for Star Youth Club residential weekend. This Community Wellbeing contribution is</p>	<p>S10 Children Ext Prov (5036)</p>

				included in the Service Contract.	
<p>Adoption UK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · National self-help organisation for prospective and adoptive parents and long term foster carers providing, information, advice support and training. The professionals providing the support and training are very skilled adoptive parents. · Promoting education and training on therapeutic parenting strategies for children placed for adoption or long term fostering. · Run regular support sessions for adopters in East Lothian · Arrange a family day for adopters in East Lothian · Provide resources e.g. books, DVDs for use by the East Lothian group · Information sharing re training and seminars provided by Adoption UK · Quarterly Newsletter sent to East Lothian Members of Adoption UK (5) · Very positive feedback from adopters, carers and workers who have been involved in Adoption UK training. Useful and challenging articles in magazine. 	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000		S10 Children Ext Prov (5036)
<p>Children's Hospice Association Scotland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provide comprehensive professional care, help and support to children and young people under 16 years and their families and who have a terminal illness or condition. · Hospices - Rachel House, Kinross and Robin House, Balloch · Support from referral to death of the child and beyond. · Accept referrals at diagnosis, midpoint or end stages · Provide bereavement support, through one to one counselling, support groups, siblings group, spiritual and religious support, and Remembering Days. · Feedback from Parents and Children's Services staff rate the service very highly. · Also provide support to families not linked into Children's Wellbeing 	£3,460	£11,887	£3,460	Chief Executive recently met with CHAS Chief Executive regarding a request for an increase in funding. Explained current financial constraints on budgets. Agreed to explore if some additional funding could be identified within Council budgets, however none is available	S10 Children Ext Prov (5036)

				within Children's Wellbeing and none has been identified to date from other Service budgets.	
<p>Birthlink</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Provides service to adopted adults, birth parents of people adopted as children and their families, local authorities and voluntary agencies. · Majority of service users self referring - 27 East Lothian referrals · Retains the records of adoptions arranged by the Guild of Service up to mid 1980s. · Maintains the Adoption Contact Register for Scotland – receives partial funding from the Scottish Government. · Maintains the Scottish Adoption Registry – computerized index of available adoption records · Telephone information service – After Adoption Information Line · Counselling, mediation and support to those seeking further information on birth relatives and reunion · Volunteers do the public records searches · Last Care Inspectorate report 2010 - grading Very Good 	£1,340	£1,340	£1,340		S10 Children Ext Prov (5036)
<p>Homestart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Established in East Lothian in August 2000 · Located at Sanderson's Wynd Early Years Centre, Tranent. Council provides accommodation. · Service providing regular parenting support to parents of children 0-8 years in East Lothian via volunteer befrienders. Currently work with 57 families, 144 children with 82 under 5 years. · Two Co-ordinators now in post (following Big Lottery award in 2008 of £330,000 over 5 years and £49,000 for 3 years (Big Lottery Extra Help) · Strong demand for service via other agencies and self 	£56,370	£56,370	£56,370		Payments to Voluntary Organisations

referral · Strong community links · Ongoing recruitment, training and support of volunteers · Feedback from parents receiving service very positive · Feedback from Children's Wellbeing Staff very positive when referral accepted.					
Children 1st –Young Families Outreach Project · Three year Service contract in place until March 2012 has been extended for a year with option of additional year. · Currently exploring a shared SLA with Midlothian. · Family support · Addressing long waiting list – Area Manager, Practice prioritises referrals · Positive feedback from Children's Wellbeing staff who refer to the project.	£185,000	£185,000	£185,000	£4,187 from Lloyds/TSB. Children 1st contribute 25 % of the cost of the project.	SLA Partnership Funding (5041)
Bankfoot, Aberlour · Provide residential respite places to children and young people with disabilities in a small unit in Prestonpans. · The children having respite at Bankfoot are the children with the most complex and enduring needs for example children with physical disabilities who need specialist equipment for moving and lifting and sleeping arrangements and children on the autistic spectrum who present with challenging behaviour. · Small outreach service also provided (see below) · Placements usually provided at weekends. · Packages of support agreed and reviewed at Multi-Agency Respite Support Panel using Vulnerability Tool. · Families receiving this service offered a week's holiday respite (Easter, summer or October) · Flexibility to spot purchase placement midweek when crises have arisen with known children or young people. · Feedback from Service User's families and Children's Wellbeing is positive.	£294,000	£294,000	£294,000	Service Level Agreement until 31 st March 2013.	Partnership Funding (5041)
Aberlour - Outreach See above	£19,220		£19,220		Partnership Funding

					(5041)
Action for Children – Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · SLA 50% Health 50%/East, Mid, West Lothian and Edinburgh · Currently updating SLA with partners to run until March 2014 · Respite provided for 4 children with complex needs and challenging behaviour. · 3 children provided with Outreach Service · East Lothian children identified and reviewed for this service via Multi-Agency Respite Support Panel using Vulnerability Tool. · Action for Children Psychologist offers training to carers and parents which has been greatly appreciated 	£41,000	£41,000	£41,000	Formerly NCH, Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh. Budget has yet to be finalised. Lack of uplift may lead to small service reduction.	Partnership Funding (5041)
Richmond's Hope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Application also made last 2 years · Bereavement project for children and young people between ages of 4-18 years based in Niddrie, Edinburgh and Dalkeith · The children are supported through their grief by project workers on a one to one basis for 12 sessions using therapeutic play and art activities. · Over 70 referrals from East Lothian since 2008 without funding in place. Application highlights they are unable to sustain position. · Very positive feedback from staff with experience of project. Staff raised funds for the project in 2011 · Offering 15 places to East Lothian Children for 1:1 bereavement counseling @ £551 per child · Spot purchase @ £1150 	None	£8,265	None	Unable to offer funding in view of budget position.	S10 Children Ext Prov (5036)
TOTAL			£850,731		