

Equality Impact Assessment



Hampshire
County Council

Children's Services 0-19 grants

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Department: Children's Services

Date of
assessment: 29/01/2021

Description of current service/policy

The 0-19 Children's Services grant responds to needs of children and young people around the county by supporting funding applications from voluntary sector, community and not for profit organisations to deliver services, aligned to meet the countywide priority approved by Local Children's Partnerships for targeted/detached youthwork.

The key funding principles of this grant are to:

- support the 0-19 agenda and align with the Family Support Service (FSS);
- support the delivery of Children and Young People's Plan priorities 2019-2021;
- support a countywide priority approved by the Local Children's Partnerships (LCPs);
- be targeted at levels 2 & 3 on the Children's Trust threshold chart.

Geographical impact: All
Hampshire

Description of proposed change

This grant has been decreased year on year for the last few financial years. The department is having to prioritise statutory duties over discretionary ones due to budgetary pressures. It is no longer possible to continue providing this grant funding and the proposal is to discontinue it to achieve a £78,000 annual saving.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out?

Yes

Individual discussions were held in January 2021 with the three providers currently in receipt of 0-19 grants. We advised of the proposal to discontinue the 0-19 grant stream going forward and asked each for their feedback in terms of potential impact and mitigations.

Statutory considerations	Impact	Mitigation
<p>Age: High</p>	<p>Due the nature of the 0-19 grants it will be children and young people who are impacted by the discontinuation of funding. The projects awarded 0-19 Children's Services grants predominantly support young people aged 16-19 and aged 13-15 with 46% and 37% of attendees coming from these respective age groups in the first two quarters of 2020/21.</p>	<p>There is no specific statutory basis for the provision of this type of grant. Hampshire Children's Services will continue to meet general duties relating to supporting children in need, ensuring the well-being of children and ensuring that certain facilities and opportunities are available locally through the range of support available such as preventative services through early help, short break activities for children who have disabilities and statutory support provision</p>
<p>Disability: Medium</p>	<p>One of the funded projects works predominantly with children and young people and their families around additional needs.</p>	<p>Children's Services continues to offer grant funding for short break activities for children with disabilities.</p>
<p>Sexual orientation: Medium</p>	<p>Young people who identified as non-binary comprised 0.4% of the attendees during quarters 1 and 2 in 2020/21. One of the projects in receipt of funding is a confidential support service for young people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning or unsure of their sexuality or gender identity. Therefore this cohort would be impacted by the removal of grant funding.</p>	<p>Hampshire Children's Services will continue to meet general duties relating to supporting children in need, ensuring the well-being of children and ensuring that certain facilities and opportunities are available locally through the range of support available such as preventative services through early help, short break activities for children who have disabilities and statutory support provision.</p>

Race: Neutral		
Religion and belief: Neutral		
Gender reassignment: Low	<p>One of the projects in receipt of funding is a confidential support service that is available for young people who are transsexual or transgender, and who therefore may be impacted by the removal of grant funding.</p>	
Gender: Medium	<p>More males accessed the services (56.6%) over the first two quarters of 2020/21 than females (43%) so would be more affected by the removal of the grant.</p>	<p>Hampshire Children's Services will continue to meet general duties relating to supporting children in need, ensuring the well-being of children and ensuring that certain facilities and opportunities are available locally through the range of support available such as preventative services through early help, short break activities for children who have disabilities and statutory support provision.</p>
Marriage and civil partnership: Neutral		
Pregnancy and maternity: Neutral		
Other policy considerations	Impact	Mitigation

<p>Poverty: Medium</p>	<p>The 0-19 grants are intended to support vulnerable children and young people in the county and poverty will be a factor for some of the service users accessing the projects funded by the grant stream.</p>	<p>Hampshire Children's Services will continue to meet general duties relating to supporting children in need, ensuring the well-being of children and ensuring that certain facilities and opportunities are available locally through the range of support available such as preventative services through early help, short break activities for children who have disabilities and statutory support provision.</p>
<p>Rurality: Medium</p>	<p>The 0-19 grants are intended to support vulnerable children and young people in the county and rurality will be a factor for some of the service users accessing the projects funded by the grant stream. Where projects are operating in rural areas, we know that there are fewer services available in those areas and so if they were to cease operating, the children and young people receiving support may be more impacted than those living in urban areas where access to alternative support is potentially more readily available.</p>	<p>Hampshire Children's Services will continue to meet general duties relating to supporting children in need, ensuring the well-being of children and ensuring that certain facilities and opportunities are available locally through the range of support available such as preventative services through early help, short break activities for children who have disabilities and statutory support provision.</p>

Neutrality statement (if all considerations have a neutral impact)

Any other information

We asked providers currently in receipt of 0-19 grants to tell us of any other (non-financial) support that HCC may be able to provide to assist them should the funding cease. As the quality and need for the services are not in question, we also offered to provide a letter of support to assist with future funding approaches to other funding bodies.