



## Executive Director/Director Non-Key Executive Decision Report

**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** Emma Beal – Head of Service Family, Adult and Community Learning. Shabaz Abbas – Operations and Partnerships Manager.

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**Report to:** John Doyle - Interim Executive Director People Services  
**Date of Decision:** 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019  
**Subject:** Approval to Accept Grant Funding from Controlling Migration Fund for the 'Welcome to Sheffield' project

Which Cabinet Member Portfolio does this relate to? Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods *Cabinet Member for Education and Skills*  
Which Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee does this relate to? *Safer and Stronger Communities*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken? Yes  No

If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? (548)

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes  No

If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-

*"The (**report/appendix**) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (**insert relevant paragraph number**) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."*

**Purpose of Report:**

For approval to accept grant funding of £198,620 from the Controlled Migration Fund (CMF) through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

These funds will be used on the Council's 'Welcome to Sheffield' project. This project develops and delivers English Language development strategies that will enable and support adults and families to Integrate within the Northeast and East communities of Sheffield.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Interim Executive Director People Services:

1. Approves acceptance of the grant funding in the sum of £198,620 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for the year 2019/2020.
2. Notes that the Sheffield City Council is the accountable body for the grant.

**Background Papers: N/A**

<b>Lead Officer to complete:-</b>							
1	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.</td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">Finance: <i>Sonya Oates</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Legal: <i>Nadine Sime/ Janusz Siodmiak</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Equalities: <i>Ed Sexton</i></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i></p>	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: <i>Sonya Oates</i>		Legal: <i>Nadine Sime/ Janusz Siodmiak</i>		Equalities: <i>Ed Sexton</i>
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## 1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 In February Sheffield City Council's Family and Community Education team were successfully awarded an initial allocation of funding for the 'Welcome to Sheffield' project funded from the Controlled Migration Fund (CMF) through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). The service has now been formally notified that a second grant payment of £198,620 has been agreed, this will allow the service to complete and fulfil the required expectations of the project.
- 1.2 The project will develop and deliver English Language development strategies that will enable and support adults and families to Integrate within the Northeast and East communities of Sheffield. The intended outcomes will develop English language skills, for new arrivals, support integration and help improve community cohesion.
- 1.3 Having received the first instalment of this work in March 2019 the second allocation will allow Libraries, Learning Skills and Communities (LLSC) to continue working on the project. This will include developing closer connectivity between community learning providers, third sector partners and key public services / professionals.
- 1.4 LLSC's work will support the 'Integrating Sheffield' project that colleagues within cohesion (SCC) are currently working on, which is also funded through the CMF. The Integrating Sheffield work is in its second year and this proposal from LLSC forms the final strand of that bid focusing on English Language development.
- 1.5 It is proposed that the Sheffield City Council will employ a number of inter-linked English Language development strategies that will enable and support adults and families to Integrate within the Northeast and East communities of Sheffield. These include:
- developing a bespoke and focused Community Learning ESOL language programme – Welcome to Sheffield,
  - recruitment of an ESOL champion to engage and recruit individuals to ESOL programmes,
  - development of an online ESOL directory and
  - development of a number of strategies to accelerate the English language skills alongside skills development for host communities.
- 1.6 The aim is to develop the new arrival's English language skills, support integration and help improve community cohesion.
- 1.7 In order to implement the outcomes, SCC will deliver 3 Welcome to Sheffield programmes in the Northeast and East areas over the 9 months of this project and expect to take 30 adults through this learning. The original bid was for 15 months effective from Jan 19-Mar 20, Given the delays in receiving funding MHCLG confirmed that whilst

1.8 the funding is un-ring fenced the work needs to be completed by April 2020.

In addition to the Council envisages that it will employ a number of supporting initiatives to complement the 'Welcome to Sheffield' Integration programme. The following are still being developed and we will need to organise how we deliver these initiatives, which may require further approvals:

- Local Volunteer led ESOL project – 1-2-1 Teaching of English and Conversation groups.
- Work with Community Partners to recruit a Community Outreach and ESOL Volunteer Development worker.
- English at Home (EAH) for Roma families.
- Work with Community Partners to recruit and employ a Roma Engagement worker to engage adult learners from Roma families for the EAH sessions.
- ESOL learning champion for the North East and East communities.
- The Council will recruit an ESOL learning champion across the NE and E communities to work alongside the community development workers and connect, build trust and engage with all new arrivals, migrants and settled communities who are in need of developing the English language skills.
- Development of general adult learning opportunities.
- Delivery of progression pathway programmes for those individuals in the community who are actively seeking to upskill themselves and help towards entering employment.
- Work with Schools to develop benefits of Family Learning (FL).
- In order to combat a lack of school readiness in families experiencing the greatest levels of deprivation, work with Community Partners and Family Learning to recruit will employ a Parental development worker.
- Redesign, develop and update the ESOL directory – on line resource. The Council will commission of online ESOL directory, evaluate, manage and coordinate the project.

## **2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?**

2.1 The purpose of the Controlled Migration Funded work and the

'Welcome to Sheffield' project is to mitigate the impact of problems caused by high migration into localities as identified by local authorities by trialling and testing approaches that would deliver benefits to both migrants and established resident populations.

The intended outcomes will develop English language skills, for new arrivals, support integration and help improve community cohesion.

Benefits for the Council are:

- having thriving, vibrant and cohesive communities
- Strong collaboration to achieve desired outcome of reducing impact on host neighbourhoods from the influx of newly arrived families and migrant communities
- Tackling inequalities within communities
- Valuing diversity and difference

3.

### **HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

3.1

Consultation for this work has taken place by SCC community development workers on the ground who are delivering the 'Integrating Sheffield' project which is also funded through the CMF. The Integrating Sheffield work is in its second year and this proposal from LLSC forms the final strand of that bid focusing on English Language development.

## **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications**

4.1.1 An EIA has been completed and approved (EIA no. 548). The application for this grant sets out the intended benefits and risks to be mitigated. Receipt of the grant supports the council's legal duty, as a Public Authority in the exercise of its functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

### **4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications**

- 4.2.1 • The grant is offered for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. The allocation is for the Sheffield local authority area and will be focusing on the North East and East Partnership areas.
- There are a number of conditions which apply to this funding. The main one being that the funds must be spent as outlined

under 2.1 above

- At the end of the grant period we are expected to submit a claim to outline the work that has been delivered over the lifetime of the project. We are also expected to share the bid with Government colleagues to build understanding of the issue/impacts of migration.
- If the grant income is not spent in line with the terms and conditions of the grant there is a risk that the grant will be clawed back by the funder.

Sheffield City Council will be the accountable body for the grant.

#### 4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1 The grant of £198,620 is being paid to Sheffield City Council under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) which gives a Minister of the Crown the power to pay a grant to support local authorities towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred.

4.3.2 The Local Authority may accept the grant under s.1 of the Localism Act 2011, the general power of competence.

4.3.3 If the grant is accepted the Council will become the Accountable Body for the grant.

4.3.4 The MHCLG has not provided any terms and conditions as such, however in their grant offer letter to the Council they have indicated their expectations of the Council in providing the grant funding:

- Carry out the activities described in your bid, ensuring they are activities that the funding allows for.
- Keep your MHCLG CMF lead informed of any issues or risks affecting progress.
- Produce an impact summary using the template and guidance supplied by MHCLG. Impact summaries to be completed by 31 October 2020.
- Allow the Department to use the impact summary and any learning generated by the project to inform the future development of policy and share with colleagues in Government and other local authorities.
- Where undertaken, share the outcome of your evaluation of the interventions.

4.3.5 The Council is therefore tied into the obligations indicated within the offer letter and any changes to the proposed activities require approval from the MHCLG. Should the Council fail to meet the expectations set

out above, it risks claw back of the funds from the MHCLG.

4.3.6 The Council must comply with all EU and State Aid rules/ regulations and ensure it is compliant during this project. Procurements under this funding will be subject to Procurement Rules of which the Council must comply, along with compliance of the Council's own Contract Standing Orders rules.

4.3.7 In respect of delivery of any of the initiatives mentioned within the proposal, any relevant procurements, commissioning or other delivery decisions will also require further internal approvals, under the Leader's Scheme of Delegations.

## **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 Fund the project from existing resources – rejected as no resources available

Do nothing – valuable activity in the City would not take place.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 The project and the funding will help the Council and the Government trial and pilot approaches that could help build an understanding of how to address issues/impacts of migration, particularly in the context of English language development. Hopefully the learning generated from our work will help shape future development policy in this area of work.