

REPORT OF: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATE: 13th FEBRUARY 2020

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MATTERS REQUIRING FINANCIAL APPROVAL

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To inform the Committee of a request for financial support from Burnley FC in the Community towards the cost of providing Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioners in Pendle's High Schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Policy and Resources Committee is recommended consider the request for financial support from Burnley FC in the Community as outlined in the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. For the Committee to consider whether it wishes to support the provision of Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioners in Pendle's High Schools.

ISSUE

4. During 2019/20, Burnley FC in the Community (BCFC) have been working with Burnley Council and Schools in Burnley to pilot the provision of Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioners in Burnley's High Schools. The provision of this service seeks to provide students who are suffering mental health issues with access to professionally qualified practitioners who are experienced in dealing with such issues. Details of the work involved are set out in the information sheet provided by BCFC which is provided at **Appendix A**.
5. From the work the Council has been involved in on the Pendle Challenge, it is clear that mental health is increasingly an issue for students in Pendle's High Schools and that access to Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioners, as in Burnley, could potentially be of significant benefit.

6. In the light of this, discussions have taken place with BCFC on the potential to provide Mental Health and Wellbeing Practitioners in each of Pendle's High Schools. BCFC have indicated that, on the basis of a 2-year project, funding of £326k is required to deliver the service of which £286k has already been secured (£102k from the Premier League, £144k from the Schools involved and £40k from East Lancashire CCG). The request to the Council is to provide £20k for each year of the project, a total of £40k.
7. Should the Council agree to contribute to the project, arrangements will be put in place with BCFC to monitor the impact of the project – in similar terms as to those outlined in Appendix A – and details of progress will be reported to the Committee at least annually as part of the Policy Thematic Update Report.
8. The Policy and Resources Committee is recommended consider the request for financial support from Burnley FC in the Community as outlined in the report.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy

9. There are no policy implications arising directly from the contents of this report. As part of its contribution to the Pendle Challenge, the Council has invested in education-related projects.

Financial

10. As indicated in the report, the request from Burnley FC in the Community is for £40k towards the costs of Schools Mental Health and Wellbeing Project.
11. As part of the Gearing up for Growth Budget, funding of £50k was earmarked for an 'Into Employment' Project that was to be developed with the DWP. This project has not progressed given lack of available match funding from the DWP. Should Councillors wish to fund the project referred to in this report, it would be funded from this budget.

Legal

12. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Risk Management

13. There are no risk management implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

Health and Safety

14. There are no health and safety implications arising directly from this report.

Sustainability

15. There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

Community Safety

16. There are no community safety issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

Equality and Diversity

17. There are no equality issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

APPENDICES

None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS: None