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**REPORT TO: EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND ORGANISATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON 18 NOVEMBER 2020**

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUPPORTS  
AND SERVICES FRAMEWORK**

**BY: INTERIM CHIEF OFFICER, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the National Community mental health and wellbeing supports framework and the funding allocated to Moray to support the development of services.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this committee the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Children and Young People Services, Governance, Strategy and Performance, (para 9 of the minute refers)

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee note the funding available and agree to it to it being used by local collaborative partnerships for planning, development and programme costs associated with the implementation of the Framework to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The National Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme Board, jointly chaired by the Scottish Government and COSLA, aims to ensure that children, young people and their families have access to the support they need for their mental health and wellbeing, when they need it.
- 3.2 In November 2019, COSLA and the Scottish Government agreed to distribute £2 million equally between local authorities (approx. £68,750 per local authority), for use by local collaborative partnerships for planning, development, programme and change management costs; for example this may be to support a post with capacity to take this work forward. Collaborative

partnerships refers to either Community Planning Partnerships or Children's Services Partnership groupings set up by Community Planning Partnerships.

- 3.3 The expectation is that local partnerships will bring together those with a key interest who should collaborate on this work and who are best placed locally to take this work forward. The guidance notes that this may generally include, but is not limited to, children's services; social work; education including educational psychology; the NHS including CAMHS; primary care and community and school nursing as well as the Third Sector. During this initial planning period, it is anticipated that the £2 million funding provided would be used as appropriate locally in planning and preparation, Moray's allocation is £62,500 "seed funding" to support set up of services in year 20/21 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
- 3.4 The Moray Children and Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing Group on 24 August 2020 agreed to seek the appointment of a Project Officer to support this process and to begin to understand and collate outcomes that can be demonstrated against Moray Children's services plan, for a period of nine months.
- 3.5 A Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Supports and Services Framework has been produced by the Scottish Government (**APPENDIX I**) which sets out a clear broad approach for the support that children and young people should be able to access for their mental health and emotional wellbeing within their local communities. The Framework aims to assist local partnerships with developing, designing, and where appropriate commissioning local services which are in line with the principles and the Framework.
- 3.6 National and local evidence demonstrate that a family support model of delivery is most likely to deliver sustainable improvements. Engagement with parents through the development and delivery of the Life Coaching in Schools model and development of the Moray Children's Services Plan highlight their desire to be upskilled to support their child's mental wellbeing and address areas of concern as early as possible.
- 3.7 Learning from the CONNECT Team model put in place during COVID-19 pandemic provides an existing framework whereby a single agency delivering Family Wellbeing Support can augment and deliver a joined up approach.
- 3.8 There is a need to develop a strengths based, whole family approach to building children and young people's mental wellbeing within the context of family, school and community. The focus will be on early help to prevent the need for more intensive higher Tier interventions. Alongside work to improve understanding and responses in universal services, our family wellbeing service will act as a Tier 2 service (universal plus support level) to bridge the gap between universal services and targeted Tier 3 services (CAMHs).
- 3.9 A service specification for a mental health and wellbeing service based on holistic family support is being developed, informed by work in the Locality Planning Groups, with the aim of a service being in place from April 2021. Funding of around £240K over the next 2 years is available for this.

- 3.10 Additionally, a one off grant of £206K has been made available in October 2020 to provide additional support due to the pandemic. Work is underway through the GLG to identify the best way to allocate these funds to have best impact.
- 3.11 This will clearly complement and support the service being commissioned with the Counselling in Schools funding, and represents a significant opportunity to support the outcomes identified in the Children's Services Plan 2020-23 (The wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved).

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

This development aligns with core priorities within the Children's Services Plan 2020/23

**(b) Policy and Legal**

No additional policy or legal implications follow from this report.

**(c) Financial implications**

This report outlines the funding Scottish Government has made available by way of grant to fund these developments

**(d) Risk Implications**

None

**(e) Staffing Implications**

A project lead will be employed with the first tranche of funding to support and co-ordinate the work required to support the commissioning of the service to meet the aspirations of the framework, and to see the implementation of the service.

**(f) Property**

None

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

The proposed framework is aimed at promoting mental health and wellbeing for children. An equality and human rights impact assessment will be carried out as part of the design/implementation of the proposals.

**(h) Consultations**

Chief Executive, Moray Council; Chief Social Work Officer; Head of Service, Children & Families & Criminal Justice Services; Senior Human Resources Adviser; Principal Accountant, Morag Smith, Senior Solicitor, Chief Education Officer; Head of Education Resources & Communities: Chief Officer, HSCM; Social Work Service Managers, and the Equal

Opportunities Officer have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are in agreement with the content relating to their areas of responsibility.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The national focus on children and young people's mental health and wellbeing aligns completely with the aspirations of the Moray Children's Services Plan 2020/23.**
- 5.2 The additional funding available for children and young people between the age of 5-25 (26 for care experienced people) provides an opportunity to design a service for Moray to meet the needs identified through the Strategic needs Assessment undertaken for the Plan, focussed on a whole family approach to wellbeing.**

Author of Report: Joyce Johnston

Background Papers:

Ref: