

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE	29 MARCH 2022	6
HOLIDAY, ACTIVITY AND FOOD PROGRAMME (HAF) – UPDATE			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

As part of the government's commitment to tackling child hunger, funding has been made available to deliver a school holiday program of physical and enrichment activities, together with a healthy meal, for children in receipt of free school meals.

The objectives of the programme are for attendees to:

- *eat more healthily over the school holidays*
- *be more active during the school holidays*
- *take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing, along with their wider educational attainment*
- *be safe and not to be socially isolated*
- *have a greater knowledge of health and nutrition*
- *be more engaged with school and other local service*

This scheme was successfully delivered in Fylde over the summer and Christmas holidays in 2021 and will be repeated once again in the coming year, with an indicative budget allocation of £160,216, to deliver the scheme in 2022/23.

Committee approval is consequently required to proceed with a project of this value.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Committee support the ongoing delivery of the HAF project.
2. That the Committee request that the Finance and Democracy Committee approve a fully funded revenue budget increase of £160,216 to fund the delivery of the HAF programme in Fylde in 2022
3. That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Environment, Health and Housing Committee, together with the Leader of the council, be invited to give their consent to use urgent power procedures to authorise any expenditure being incurred, in anticipation of both the funding being received, and in terms of the Easter break provision, which precedes the next scheduled date of the Finance and Democracy Committee (23rd June 2022)

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Environment, Health and Housing Committee, June 2021: It was RESOLVED; 1. That the Committee support the emergency decision of the Chief Executive to proceed with the recruitment of the HAF Co-ordinator; 2. That the Committee approve delivery of the HAF project as set out in the report; and 3. That the Committee request that Finance and Democracy Committee approve a revenue budget increase of £123,000, fully funded from specific

HAF grant, for the delivery of the HAF programme in Fylde in 2021/22.

Environment, Health and Housing Committee, January 2022: Members received an update on the Holiday, Activity and Food Programme (HAF) which was successfully delivered during the summer and Christmas school holidays, with an expectation of additional funding to extend the scheme across future years. It was advised that an update would be brought to a future meeting of the committee. At this juncture, thanks were extended to Edyta Paxton, Health and Wellbeing Officer, for the successful delivery of the scheme.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	✓
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	✓
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	✓
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	✓

REPORT

1. As part of the government's commitment to tackling child hunger, funding has been made available to deliver a school holiday program of physical and enrichment activities, together with a healthy meal, for children in receipt of free school meals.
2. The objectives of the programme are for attendees to:
 - *eat more healthily over the school holidays*
 - *be more active during the school holidays*
 - *take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character & wellbeing, along with their wider educational attainment*
 - *be safe and not to be socially isolated*
 - *have a greater knowledge of health and nutrition*
 - *be more engaged with school and other local service*
3. This scheme was successfully delivered in Fylde over the summer and Christmas holidays in 2021. The project was extremely well received, surpassing scheme targets and engaging with 613 children over the summer period (43% of the local cohort); the scheme was also delivered in the Christmas week, with Christmas food hampers distributed to participating children and their families at the end of the holiday club.
4. Fylde has been provided with an indicative budget allocation of £160,216 to fund the delivery of the scheme once again across the 2022 school holidays; 10% of the funding will be allocated to extending the scheme coordinator role who will work closely with partners to run the school holiday provision.
5. The makeup of this comprises 4 sessions of 4 hours per child in the April Easter break, 16 sessions in the summer holidays and 4 sessions over the Christmas break; and 10% of the funding will be allocated to extending the scheme coordinator role who will work closely with partners to run the school holiday provision. At this point, the funding is limited to 2022.
6. In terms of geographic spread, smaller satellite clubs will also be established in areas of greater need in Freckleton, Kirkham and Central Ward in St Annes, making use of community buildings and schools to deliver the sessions. Enquiries are being made with commercial recreational ventures in the area to see if discounted fees can be negotiated for families in need, as part of the HAF programme.
7. Several afternoon sessions will be arranged for older children (12 – 16), working with outreach workers already active in the community, in Memorial Park, Parkview and Ashton Gardens.
8. Weekly progress meetings will be scheduled with the Lancashire County Council (LCC) Early Help Partnership officer for this region; bi-weekly meetings will also take place with LCC and Streetgames, a national charity providing sport programmes for disadvantaged communities.

9. It is anticipated that the funding will be granted to the council by the beginning of April. In accordance with the financial procedure rules, this committee is invited to consider this funded budget increase, and work programme, and make a recommendation to the Finance and Democracy Committee. The Finance and Democracy Committee has authority to approve funded budget increases to the value of £250,000. As the funding has yet be to be received, the Finance and Democracy Committee will also be invited to give authority to spend in advance of the grant being received subject to the support of this committee for the initiative.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	The report sets out details of grant funding anticipated to be received by the council to deliver the HAF project, and requests that Finance and Democracy Committee approve a funded revenue budget increase of £160,216, fully funded from the HAF grant, for the delivery of the programme in Fylde in 2022 as detailed in the report.
Legal	No legal implications arising because of this report
Community Safety	The afternoon-based activity programmes will provide diversionary activities for older children assisting to eliminate the potential for any anti-social behaviour
Human Rights and Equalities	No human rights and equalities implications arising because of this report
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	No sustainability and environmental impact implications arising as a result of this report
Health & Safety and Risk Management	The programme will be managed in accordance with both operational risk management considerations, together with any health and safety requirements

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Edyta Paxton	Edyta.Paxton@fylde.gov.uk	16 th March 2022

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
NA		