

## MTRP Proposal - 18/19 and Beyond - Business Case

<b>Service Area</b>	Childrens Services
<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	CFS181905
<b>Proposal Title</b>	Use of Grant Funding to Support Care Leavers
<b>Version</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> December 2017
<b>Proposal Summary Description</b>	To offset core funding that supports care leavers against the Welsh Government St David's Day Fund.
<b>Impact on Performance</b>	There will be no impact on existing performance. There will be an impact on our ability to deliver the expectations of "Hidden Ambitions" and the requirements of Welsh Government to increase support for care leavers.
<b>Impact on FTE Count</b>	None
<b>Impact on other Service Areas</b>	None
<b>Impact on Citizens</b>	Care leavers will receive a lower level of support than in other Council areas.
<b>Delegated Decision (Head of Service/Cabinet Member/ Cabinet)</b>	Head of Service
<b>Activity Code</b>	SOC 20 Leaving Care

<b>Net Savings (£000's)</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
	35			

<b>Implementation Costs (- £000's)</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
<b>Revenue – Redundancy/Pension</b>	0			
<b>Revenue – External consultants</b>	0			
<b>Revenue - Other</b>	0			
<b>Capital – Building related</b>	0			
<b>Capital - Other</b>	0			
<b>Implementation Cost - Total</b>				

### **Current Position**

Welsh Government (WG) are of the view that the current funding arrangements to support care leavers are inadequate. Care leavers are a group of young people who are over represented in a range of vulnerable groups as adults. They are more likely to experience homelessness, mental and physical ill health, prison and income poverty

With this in mind WG have awarded a grant for 17/18 and 18/19 of £63,900 to provide

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additional support for care experienced young people. The criteria of the grant funding are to support care experienced young people on an individual basis to help them achieve independence. Care leavers in Newport already access support to set up in accommodation and any items they may require to facilitate access to education and training. The budget does vary depending on the number of care leavers each year.

This saving will offset £35K of the budget against the St David's Day fund. The reporting to WG on the grant will therefore be in the context of the existing spend.

### **Key Objectives and Scope**

Please see current position.  
The objective is to offset existing expenditure against the grant funding.

### **Options considered**

**Option 1** - Retain the current arrangements

No saving would be realised

**Option 2** - Offset £35K of the Children's Services budget against the St David's Day fund

### **Recommended Proposal/Option**

Option 2 - a saving from Children's Services of £35K.

Offsetting the grant against existing planned expenditure is a straightforward step. The grant is for two years and will then go into the RSG.

Offsetting the grant in this way means there will be limited enhancement of provision for care leavers. Care leavers do receive support from the Council and the grant is explicitly to attempt to improve this support.

Using the grant in this way risks disadvantaging Newport care leavers against their peers in other Local Authorities. The grant would assist the Council in meeting the objectives of the Children's Commissioner's report Hidden Ambitions. Limiting the grant limits the opportunity to meet the objectives.

### **Required Investment**

None

### **High Level Milestones and Timescales**

There is no timetable required for this form of offsetting. It will have an immediate effect.

### **Key Risks/issues**

<b>Risk Description</b>	<b>Risk Score (as per matrix below)</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>
Disadvantaging care leavers compared to their peers across Wales	5 x 2	None

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*Risks should be scored using the following matrix and scoring mechanism*

<b>Probability description</b>	<b>Score</b>
Very Low probability	1
Low probability	2
Medium probability	3
High probability	4
Very high probability	5

  

<b>Impact description</b>	<b>Score</b>
Negligible	1
Low	2
Medium	3
High	4
Very High	5

  

<b>Probability</b>	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
		1	2	3	4	5
		<b>Impact</b>				

## **Specific linkage with Future generation act requirements**

The proposal is a saving against the potential for an improved service for care leavers. There is therefore no positive linkage with FG Act requirements.

## **Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment**

TBC