Committee considering report: Executive

Date of Committee: 7 November 2024

Portfolio Member: Councillor Heather Codling

Report Author: Kate Parietti

Forward Plan Ref: EX4578

1 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To inform the Executive about the West Berkshire Wraparound Care Programme Strategy that will inform the roll out of this programme across the district.

1.2 The government's ambition is that by 2026, all parents and carers of primary schoolaged children who need it will be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm. West Berks has been allocated full funding from the DFE for 2024/2025 following their acceptance of our delivery plan. This funding equates to: £450,325.00.

2 Recommendation

2.1 For the Executive to understand the delivery plan and process for distributing these funds.

3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
Financial:	There is direct DFE funding for this project only and there are no financial implications for the council. The delivery plan has been agreed by the 151 officer and service director.
	Finance managers have supported with the creation of the funding plan and returns to the DFE.
	West Berkshire has received full funding from the DFE for 2024/2025 of £450,325.00. Due to the change in government, ministers have currently only agreed the first round of funding for the financial year 2024/2025. Funding for the financial year 2025/2026 is pending for all LAs.

Human Resource:	by the The E	The wraparound care co-ordinator position has been funded by the grant as a fixed term position. The DFE has agreed a total of £90,034.76 over three years to fund this position with £9,935.10 for the FY23/24 and the remainder split between the subsequent two years.			
Legal:	_			e created the funding agreement between providers.	
Risk Management:				lly funded by the DFE and there is no council.	
Property:	No				
Policy:	Natio	nal Pol	icy.		
	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary	
Equalities Impact:					
A Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		x			
B Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?	х			This will develop place at wraparound care for some children with SEN need.	
Environmental Impact:		х			

Health Impact:		x		
ICT Impact:		х		
Digital Services Impact:		х		
Council Strategy Priorities:	x			This project will enable the council to support schools to ensure that there is full wraparound care in each school to ensure a fairer system. By releasing more people to work within the job system it will support a more prosperous West Berkshire. In addition, it will help to enhance services in villages by creating further job opportunities and support local schools to
Core Business:	x			This will support the core business as it will make schools in West Berkshire more attractive to families as they can have full access to wraparound care.
Data Impact:		х		
Consultation and Engagement:	Schools and private providers have been surveyed as part of this proposal. In addition, parents had the opportunity to access a survey with almost 300 respondents. Schools have had the opportunity to attend cluster meetings and all documentation has been shared with all schools and local providers.			

4 Executive Summary

4.1 This has been brought to the Executive for information to share how the council intend to deliver this plan in West Berkshire. The council approach has been informed by demand, mapping and parental surveys.

Key Priorities

• Opening provision every day and ensuring provision is open until 6pm. All our current provisions are open from 8am.

- Funding additional places where provision is full or oversubscribed.
- Matching wraparound care providers who want to expand provision into new areas where existing provision is limited (creation of provision).
- Working with small schools as potential cluster models to allow for a sustainable provision moving forward.
- Considering the needs of children with SEN need both within mainstream and special schools and whether there is appropriate provision in place and creating and expanding provision where possible.

5 Supporting Information

Introduction

- 5.1 This is to inform the executive about the Wraparound Care Programme and the West Berkshire strategy for the delivery of this DFE programme.
- 5.2 The government's ambition is that by 2026, all parents and carers of primary schoolaged children who need it will be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm. West Berks has been allocated full funding from the DFE for 2024/2025 following their acceptance of our delivery plan. This funding equates to: £450,325.00.
- 5.3 This programme will only focus on primary school-aged children from reception to year 6, Monday to Friday during term time. The funding period will run until April 2026, and the government expects that most schools will be able to deliver wraparound childcare that is self-financing and sustainable by September 2026.

Background

- 5.4 Government's Vision for the delivery of the programme:
- **a. Local authority-led:** building on their existing duty to ensure that there is sufficient childcare in their local area, they will lead the strategy and delivery of the programme locally.
- **b. School-centred, with provision delivered by a variety of childcare providers.** Schools are uniquely placed to understand their communities and families. As happens now, we expect that the majority of parents will access childcare either through provision on a school site, or through the school signposting them to alternative local provision, for example PVIs and childminders. This approach reflects the diversity of delivery models for wraparound childcare and the need for coherence for parents.

In order to do this the programme needs to be:

a. Cohesive and collaborative – the programme is an opportunity to build new relationships and strengthen existing relationships across local authority boundaries and with professionals.

- **b.** Purposeful the programme needs strong leadership, with passion and shared motivation to provide the right support for families.
- **c.** Reflective of the community the programme should be built on existing assets and understanding of the local community, which incorporates and does not disrupt and displace the existing wraparound childcare market.
- **d. Able to deliver** the programme needs to be led by skilled staff and develop the skills and the capacity of the workforce.
- **e. High quality and inclusive** the programme should provide provision that is child centred, easily accessible and listens to the needs of families.
- **f. Sustainable** the programme needs to be sustainable for families and providers with the future always in mind.
- 5.5 The current West Berkshire position is that most schools are currently running successful provisions on their school site that are self-sustaining. Many of these are catering for children with SEN need. Where schools are working with PVI providers, these relationships are working well.
- 5.6 The council strategy is to ensure that all schools and private providers, who do not meet the definition of wraparound care, expand their provision either by number of days or amount of time.
- 5.7 Where there is currently no support in SEN schools, the council will look to see the barriers to this and how to facilitate this.
- 5.8 Where schools have identified that they have increasing demand, the council will ensure to prioritise them for expansion alongside any school, who currently does not offer any provision.
- 5.9 Where building projects are taking place, the council will consider over supplying in these areas to ensure that the schools in these areas can meet the future need. These areas include: Donnington and Shaw, Central Newbury, Theale and Thatcham.
- 5.10 Capital funding has been discussed with schools and settings to ensure that the process is clear for anyone wishing to apply for this. Wraparound care has been allocated £64,000 for West Berkshire. Clear expectations and application processes have been set on what this money can be used for. Site visits will be conducted prior to the release of these funds.
- 5.11 Initial calculations from the supply and demand survey demonstrate the potential expansion of 29 settings creating 464 places. In addition, creating 7 new provisions providing 110 places. This will equate to 15.94 places per setting, which is above DFE expectations.
- 5.12 So far this academic year, we have created 100 new spaces and 60 expansion at 6 different settings within the authority.

Proposals

5.13 The council want to fully inform the executive regarding this strategy so that they are assured that the delivery plan meets the requirements as laid down by the DFE.

6 Other options considered

N/A

7 Conclusion

7.1 In order to ensure that all providers meet the DFE expectations, the council has a clear strategy in place so that grant funding can be spent where needed to expand and create wraparound care places. This will mean all children and parents, regardless of school setting, can access wraparound care.

8 Appendices

- 8.1 Equality Impact Assessment
- 8.2 Data Protection Impact Assessment
- 8.3 <u>National Wraparound Childcare Programme Handbook a guide for local authorities</u> (publishing.service.gov.uk)
- 8.4 Childcare Expansion Capital Grant Allocations Guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)

Subject to Call-In:				
Yes: ☐ No: ⊠				
The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval				
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council				
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position				
Considered or reviewed by Scrutiny Commission or associated Committees, Task Groups within preceding six months				
Item is Urgent Key Decision	\boxtimes			
Report is to note only				

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Appendix A

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) - Stage One

What is the proposed decision that you are asking the Executive to make:		For the board to understand the delivery plan and grant application process and the chosen method of distributing these funds.	
Summary of relevant legis	slation:		
Does the proposed decision conflict with any of the Council's priorities for improvement?		Yes □ No x	
 Ensure our vulnerable children and adults achieve better outcomes Support everyone to reach their full potential Support businesses to start develop and thrive in West Berkshire Develop local infrastructure including housing to support and grow the local economy Maintain a green district Ensure sustainable services through innovation and partnerships 			
Name of Budget Holder:		AnnMarie Dodds	
Name of Service/Directorate:		Education	
Name of assessor:			
Date of assessment:			
Version and release date (if applicable):			
Is this a ?		Is this policy, strategy, function or service ?	
Policy	Yes 🗌 No x	New or proposed	Yes x No □
Strategy	Yes x No □	Already exists and is being reviewed	Yes □ No x
Function	Yes ☐ No x	Is changing	Yes □ No x
Service	Yes ☐ No x		
(1) What are the main a decision and who is I		and intended outcomes of rom it?	of the proposed
Aims:		nment's ambition is that by 2 s of primary school-aged chil	•

	will be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am-6pm.	
Objectives:	 Opening provision every day and ensuring provision is open until 6pm. All our current provisions are open from 8am. Funding additional places where provision is full or oversubscribed. Matching wraparound care providers who want to expand provision into new areas where existing provision is limited (creation of provision). Working with small schools as potential cluster models to allow for a sustainable provision moving forward. Considering the needs of children with an SEN need both within mainstream and special schools and whether there is appropriate provision in place and creating and expanding provision where appropriate. 	
Outcomes:	West Berkshire will have wraparound care attached to all schools, which meets parental demand.	
Benefits:	This project will enable the council to support schools to ensure that there is full wraparound care in each school to ensure a fairer system. By releasing more people to work within the job system it will support a more prosperous West Berkshire. In addition, it will help to enhance services in villages by creating further job opportunities and support local schools to help children and families.	

(2) Which groups might be affected and how? Is it positively or negatively and what sources of information have been used to determine this?

Group Affected	What might be the effect?	Information to support this
Age		
Disability	Positive	The council will be able to offer wraparound care to children with SEN Need.
Gender Reassignment		

Marriage and Civil Partnership				
Pregnancy and Maternity				
Race				
Religion or Belief				
Sex				
Sexual Orientation				
Further Comments: No	one of the groups will	be negatively or positive	ely effected.	
(3) Result				
Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could contribute to inequality? Yes \square No x				
This is about equality for all families no matter where they live and which school they choose.				
Will the proposed decision have an adverse impact upon the lives of people, including employees and service users? Yes □ No x				
This is about equality for all families no matter where they live and which school they choose.				
(4) Identify next steps	as appropriate:			
EqIA Stage 2 required		Yes □ No x		
Owner of EqIA Stage T	wo:			
Timescale for EqIA Sta	ige Two:			
Name: Kate Parietti		Date: 6.6.	24	

Appendix B

Data Protection Impact Assessment – Stage One

The General Data Protection Regulations require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for certain projects that have a significant impact on the rights of data subjects.

Should you require additional guidance in completing this assessment, please refer to the Information Management Officer via dp@westberks.gov.uk

Directorate:	People
Service:	Education
Team:	School Improvement
Lead Officer:	Rose Carberry
Title of Project/System:	Wraparound Care
Date of Assessment:	6.6.24

Do you need to do a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)?

	Yes	No
Will you be processing SENSITIVE or "special category" personal data?		X
Note – sensitive personal data is described as "data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerninga natural person's sex life or sexual orientation"		
Will you be processing data on a large scale?		x
Note – Large scale might apply to the number of individuals affected OR the volume of data you are processing OR both		
Will your project or system have a "social media" dimension?	x	
Note – w ill it have an interactive element w hich allows users to communicate directly w ith one another?		
Will any decisions be automated?		x
Note – does your systemor process involve circumstances where an individual's input is "scored" or assessed without intervention/review/checking by a human being? Will there be any "profiling" of data subjects?		

	Yes	No
Will your project/system involve CCTV or monitoring of an area accessible to the public?		x
Will you be using the data you collect to match or cross-reference against another existing set of data?		X
Will you be using any novel, or technologically advanced systems or processes?		х
Note – this could include biometrics, "internet of things" connectivity or anything that is currently not widely utilised		

If you answer "Yes" to any of the above, you will probably need to complete Data Protection Impact Assessment - Stage Two. If you are unsure, please consult with the Information Management Officer before proceeding.