



Meeting of East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Integration Joint Board	
Held on	26 January 2022	
Agenda Item	7	
Title	Future Funding for Family Wellbeing Service	

Summary

This report outlines the funding shortfall for Family Wellbeing Service from 31st May 2022 due to the contract with The Robertson Trust for Social Bridging Finance concluding on that date.

Presented by	Kate Rocks, Head of Public Protection and Children Services, Chief Social Worker Officer
--------------	--

Action Required

The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

- Note that the three year Social Bridging Finance contract between East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and The Robertson Trust ends on 31st May 2022.
- Approve the use of the Access to School Counselling Grant and the Children and Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing reserves to fund the Family Wellbeing Service from 1 June 2022 for a two year period. These reserves have accumulated since 2019 2021 due to delays in commissioning service for mental health supports for schools as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Directions	Implications	
⊠ No Directions Required	K Finance	🗌 Risk
Directions to East Renfrewshire Council (ERC)	Policy	🗌 Legal
Directions to NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC)	Workforce	Infrastructure
Directions to both ERC and NHSGGC	Equalities	Fairer Scotland Duty

23



EAST RENFREWSHIRE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

26 January 2022

Report by Head of Public Protection and Children's Services

FUTURE FUNDING FOR FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Integration Joint Board members that the social bridging contract between The Robertson Trust and East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership comes to an end on 31st May 2022. The service is delivered by Children 1st and takes referrals direct from local GP practices. East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and our partners have considered options to financially sustain the service to children, families, GPs and other stakeholders beyond this date. As a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic reserves have been accumulated through the Scottish Government children's mental health grant reserves. Authorisation is sought to use this reserve to fund the shortfall due to the reduction of the social bridging finance by The Robertson Trust into the Family Wellbeing Service.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2. Integration Joint Board members are asked to:
 - Note that the three year Social Bridging Finance contract between East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and The Robertson Trust ends on 31st May 2022.
 - Approve the use of the Access to School Counselling Grant and the Children and Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing reserves to fund the Family Wellbeing Service from 1 June 2022 for a two year period. These reserves have accumulated since 2019 - 2021 due to delays in commissioning service for mental health supports for schools as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

BACKGROUND

- 3. In September 2017, Children 1st and East Renfrewshire's Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) developed a one year pilot service called the Family Wellbeing Service to offer early help for children and families who are experiencing emotional distress. The pilot, which included a partnership with two local GP practices, was evaluated as a success, exceeding service outcomes, and resulting in improved emotional wellbeing in children, young people and families. Noting the impact of the service, the Integration Joint Board in 2018 ratified the decision to continue to fund the Family Wellbeing Service for a further year to enable the expansion of service delivery to an additional four referring GP practices. By the beginning of 2019 the service was open to receive referrals from six GP practices.
- 4. During 2018 The Robertson Trust agreed to fund the scale up of the Family Wellbeing Service within East Renfrewshire rolling it out to all GP practices within the local authority. The Robertson Trust provided social bridging finance as it was the intention of the partnership to remodel the delivery of mental health services for children through the re-provision of mental health budgets from acute and primary care.

- 5. The purpose of additional investment was to develop the expansion of the service to reach even more children and families in East Renfrewshire. For the second year of delivery the service had been extended to work with six GP practices however the new funding further increased this to all GP practices in East Renfrewshire over the three years of the project 2019-2022.
- 6. The new partnership also agreed the following success criteria:
 - 50% reduction in repeat presentations at GP practices.
 - 90% of families referred to the service are contacted within two weeks of being referred.
 - The service will work with a minimum of 178 children and young people per year.
- 7. The most recent evaluation of the service has demonstrated that all of the criteria has been met even during the difficulties that have been experienced over the two years of the Covid-19 pandemic, specifically:
 - There was a 62% reduction in repeat presentations at GP practices.
 - 91% of referrals were contacted within the two weeks of the referral being received.
 - In 2020-2021 the service worked with 338 children and young people well in excess of the original target of 178.
- 8. The Robertson Trust have also provided their validation of this success (Appendix 2).

REPORT

- 9. Over the last three years there has been new Scottish Government policy and additional investment to accompany it; Counselling in Schools Grant and the Children and Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing Supports and Services Framework which has enabled the children services partnership to respond to increasing demand and this in turn has ensured many more children, young people and their families receive the support they need, when they have need it, underpinned by the values, principles and components of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) and The Promise.
- 10. Specifically the Counselling in Schools Grant was earmarked for the development of a new commissioned service that would work closely with schools to support early intervention, upskill the workforce, as well as deliver direct support to pupils experiencing significant emotional wellbeing concerns. Due to the requirement to respond to the immediate needs and to manage operational priority caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the commissioning of the service was delayed which has led to an underspend of the grant for the last two years and the accumulation of a reserve. The core funding of £411k per annum in relation to School Counselling is fully committed from 2022/23 onwards.
- 11. The service for school wellbeing has now been commissioned and the successful provider is Children 1st. This service will provide a more targeted approach to supporting children at school who are displaying a range of emotional wellbeing issues. The service is due to commence on 1st April 2022 and will be fully funded by the recurring Counselling in Schools Grant.
- 12. At a partnership meeting on 17th November 2022, the Health and Social Care Partnership and Education Services agreed to realign the accumulated reserves from the Counselling in Schools Grant to replace the funding shortfall as a consequence of social bridging finance no longer being available from The Robertson Trust. Please see options paper appendix 1.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

Finance and Efficiency

13. The table below outlines the annual funding for the Family Wellbeing Service for each of the last three years - 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. As The Robertson Trust investment will end on 31st May 2022 there is a shortfall of approximately £354,000 per year to continue service delivery at the current level. From recent lengthy discussions with all partners it was agreed that the service will not be viable to be delivered based on the existing Health and Social Care Partnership financial commitment of £320,000 alone. The options paper from October 2021 (appendix 1) details the considerations this decision was based on.

East Renfrewshire Family Wellbeing Service - Investment Budget 2019-2022

Expenditure	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	
Investment from HSCP	£320,000	£320,000	£320,000	£960,000
Investment from The Robertson Trust	£350,677	£339,864	£353,815	£1,044,355
Total	£670,677	£659,864	£673,815	£2,004,355

- 14. In summary then it is expected that to fully fund the Family Wellbeing service over the next two years would require total funding of £675k per year to be identified. This does not take into account pay awards or other inflationary increases.
- 15. The proposal to fund this would be through a combination of current core funding, the use of the school counselling reserve and a small top up from Children and Young Persons Mental Health Framework funding see the table and accompanying detail below.

East Renfrewshire Family Wellbeing Service – Funding Proposal 2022/23 to 2023/24.

	2022/23 (£k)	2022/23 (£k)
Expenditure: 675 675	675	675
Funded By:		
Investment from HSCP – Core Budget	320	320
Drawdown of School Counselling Reserve	343.5	343.5
Children's Mental Health Framework Grant	11.5	11.5
Total Funding	675	675

- 16. The Health and Social Care Partnership currently has a reserve of £687k in relation to School Counselling funding that has built up over the last two financial years. It is proposed to fully utilise this reserve over the next two financial years towards the continuation of the Family Wellbeing Service, i.e. a contribution of £343.5k in each financial year.
- 17. Children and Young Persons Mental Health Framework funding of £261k per year is non-recurring and it is proposed that £11.5k per year us used to fund this activity.
- 18. The proposed funding would meet the costs of this service to April 2024. However based on the current budget there is only £320k recurring funding so further planning and/or exit strategy would have to be considered for future years.

<u>Policy</u>

19. Supporting children and young people's mental health is among the highest priorities for East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership particularly as we seek to provide support to those impacted by the pandemic, and at the same time address the

significant needs that existed prior to it. Mental wellbeing services for children and young people are designed and delivered based on local need and informed by national policy expectations. Locally the East Renfrewshire Children's Services Plan 2021-2023 and the Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan provide policy direction and steer over the following three year period.

Workforce

20. The East Renfrewshire Children 1st Family Wellbeing Service staff are highly trained and have considerable experience and local knowledge of the local authority area, schools, and Health and Social Care Partnership services. Service continuity beyond May 2022 will ensure this highly skilled professional workforce will be sustained and the expertise remains within East Renfrewshire.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- 21. Feedback from children, young people and families confirms the positive impact of the Family Wellbeing Service on their mental health, and GPs regularly state that the service has been crucial to helping mentally distressed children and young people. Indeed the service has significantly contributed to our response in reducing the risk of harm by helping young people and their families who have been exponentially impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic access support. Throughout the pandemic we have seen both locally and nationally the demand for mental health service, which greatly assisted in our response to the pandemic and currently its contribution towards the recovery of children & young people has been outstanding.
- 22. East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership are working closely with East Renfrewshire Education colleagues to plan and resource emotional wellbeing provision in East Renfrewshire, and have met with GPs and their representatives over the last twelve months.
- 23. Currently a new referral pathway that provides a single point of access to help for mental health and emotional distress is currently being designed and it is proposed that this pathway will be shared with the Integrated Joint Board at March 2022 meeting.

CONCLUSIONS

24. The tier two Family Wellbeing Service has been operating since late 2017 initially as a pilot working with the two GP surgeries. In 2019 East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership in partnership with Children 1st were successful in securing significant investment from The Robertson Trust to extend the delivery of the Family Wellbeing Service to all GP practices until May 2022. This new injection of funding for East Renfrewshire was approved as a social bridging finance partnership contract between the three partners – East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership, Children 1st, and The Robertson Trust. As the current funding will end on 31st May 2022 East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership is exploring opportunities to maintain the current level of resourcing to ensure this important children's mental wellbeing service continues beyond the end of the social bridging finance contract period. By accessing reserves of the Scottish Government children's mental health grants that have accumulated over the last two years, the Family Wellbeing Service will be able to continue beyond May 2022 for another two year period.

RECOMMENDATION

- 25. Integration Joint Board members are asked to:
 - Note that the three year Social Bridging Finance contract between East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and The Robertson Trust ends on 31st May 2022.
 - Approve the use of the Access to School Counselling Grant and the Children and Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing reserves to fund the Family Wellbeing Service from 1 June 2022 for a two year period. These reserves have accumulated since 2019 - 2021 due to delays in commissioning service for mental health supports for schools as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT

Kate Rocks, Head of Public Protection and Children Services (Chief Social Work Officer) <u>kate.rocks@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk</u> 0141 451 0748

Arlene Cassidy, Children's Services Strategy Manager arlene.cassidy@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk 0141 451 0755

January 2022

IJB Chief Officer: Julie Murray

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Mental Health and Wellbeing in Children's Services (September 2021) https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/5994/IJB-Item-13-22-September-2021/pdf/IJB_Item_13_-_22_September_2021.pdf?m=637668671045600000

Family Wellbeing Service Supplementary Report: Success Criteria 1 (September 2020) https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/3204/Integration-Joint-Board-Item-13-23-September-2020/pdf/Integration_Joint_Board_Item_13_-23_September_2020.pdf?m=637354314880070000

East Renfrewshire Family Wellbeing Service Annual Report 2019-20 – <u>https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/1746/Integration-Joint-Board-Item-06-12-August-2020/pdf/Integration_Joint_Board_Item_06 - 12_August_2020.pdf?m=637318006680170000</u>

East Renfrewshire Family Wellbeing Service Annual Report 2018-19 https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/2272/Integration-Joint-Board-Item-08-27-November-2019/pdf/IJB_Item_08_-_27 November 2019.pdf?m=637351738779430000

Children and Young Peoples Mental Health Taskforce: Recommendations https://www.gov.scot/publications/children-young-peoples-mental-health-task-force-recommendations/documents/



<u>Children's Mental Wellbeing Services</u> <u>Delivery Options Paper</u>

<u>Values</u>

This options paper is underpinned by the following *Getting it right for every child and young person* principles and values:

- Children and young people get the help they need when they need it.
- Responses to emotional wellbeing concerns must be accessible, timeous and responsive.
- The design and delivery of all emotional wellbeing services must be informed by the UNCRC in particular Articles 24 and 39 which outline children and young people's rights to health services and help to recover from trauma.
- The Promise and our commitment to care experienced children and young people and their fundamental right and entitlement to a good childhood which must include good mental health.
- The capacity of the universal children's services workforce should be strengthened in order for them to respond to identified concerns as early as possible in order to prevent children and young people's difficulties escalating in complexity that would require targeted and specialist intervention.
- The one child one assessment one plan approach will ensure efficient and effective use of finite resources and appropriate and proportionate responses to children and young people's needs.

Options that acknowledge the considerable investment in the existing Family Wellbeing Service workforce and outline a pathway to secure and retain these staff – all of whom have been trained to a high level and have considerable experience and local knowledge - are the most advantageous to delivery of the principles outlined above.

OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Option 1

Current funding arrangement from Robertson Trust and East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership continues. Robertson Trust and East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership agree to fund the project for an additional period of time beyond 31 May 2022 to the current funding level.

Outcome: No change to service delivery capacity. Service operates alongside new Healthier Minds contract through the Hub. As existing workforce have been trained to a high level and have considerable experience and local knowledge all staff remain in their Family Wellbeing Service posts.

Recommendation: As Robertson Trust have confirmed they are unable to continue to invest beyond 31st May 2022 Option 1 is not feasible and cannot be recommended.

Option 2

Robertson Trust funding ends on 31 May 2022 and Health and Social Care Partnership internally secures full funding for an additional year(s) in order for service to continue to current level of activity. This was the arrangement set out in the original Social Bridging Finance contractual agreement.

Outcome: No change to service delivery capacity. Service operates alongside new Healthier Minds contract through the Hub. As existing workforce have been trained to a high level and have considerable experience and local knowledge all staff remain in their Family Wellbeing Service posts.

Recommendation: The Family Wellbeing Service has significantly reduced the number of inappropriate referrals by GPs to CAMHs services over the last three years, as well as reduced the number of repeat presentation appointments at GPs' surgeries by parents and young people for mental distress. This is a phenomenal impact and the Health and Social Care Partnership and partners now require to explore all resource opportunities to keep the Family Wellbeing Service operating at its current capacity to meet existing high demand that GPs are experiencing and the expected increase in need over the next period. We recommend Option 2.

Option 3

East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership funds the service to its current funding level commitment but the proportion funded originally by Robertson Trust is not matched.

Outcome: Approximately 50% reduction in Family Wellbeing Service capacity to deliver service linked to GP practices. Service operates alongside new Healthier Minds contract through the Hub. A small proportion of Family Wellbeing Service staff remain in post to continue to deliver a significantly reduced service for GPs, a proportion of staff internally transfer over to the new Healthier Minds service contract, and the remainder are made redundant.

Recommendation: It will not be possible for the Family Wellbeing Service to deliver an accessible and responsive service to GPs at approximately 50% of the current service level capacity.

Current timescales for access of two weeks could not be met and the resultant referral waiting lists would mean that many children's mental wellbeing concerns would not be addressed timeously and would deteriorate. Pressure on GPs could mean more referrals to CAMHs but also for crisis intervention support. We do not recommend Option 3.

Option 4

Funding from Robertson Trust and East Renfrewshire Heath and Social Care Partnership ends completely on 31 May 2022 and therefore Family Wellbeing Service ends.

Outcome: Family Wellbeing Service as a distinct service ends. New Healthier Minds contracted service starts but does not receive GP direct referrals and has limited capacity based exclusively on the contract agreement. A proportion of Family Wellbeing Service staff internally transfer over to the new Healthier Minds service contract and the remainder are made redundant.

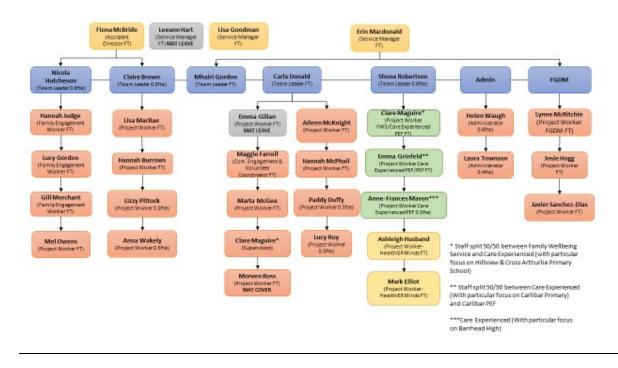
Recommendation: See Option 2 recommendation. We do not recommend Option 4.

Existing Children 1st East Renfrewshire staffing (see structure below)

- Family Wellbeing Service
 - 13.5 FTE Project Workers
 - 2.4 FTE Team Leaders
 - 1.6 FTE Service Managers
 - 1 FTE Administrator
- Healthier Minds Service Hub Input
 - 2 project workers, will reduce to 1 soon (one has resigned effective from December 2022)
- Care Experienced LAC Attainment Programme
 - Team Manager (0.6fte)
 - 1.5 project workers
- Family Group Decision Making Service (see above for service manager)
 - 3 project workers

All East Renfrewshire service provision and development is overseen by one Assistant Director

<u>Children 1st Team Structure in East Renfrewshire (consists of Family Wellbeing Service, Family Group Decision Making, Care Experienced Project, HM Hub)</u>



CURRENT Annual Service Cost for existing Delivery of Family Wellbeing Service and HM by Children 1st in East Renfrewshire

Service	Partner	Funding Amount	Staffing
	East Renfrewshire HSCP contribution	£320,000	13.5 FTE Project Workers
Family Wellbeing	The Robertson Trust	£353,915	 2.4 FTE Team Leaders 1.6 FTE Service
Service	East Renfrewshire HSCP Additional Funding	£77,999	Managers1 FTE Administrator
TOTAL		£751,914	
HealthiER Minds	East Renfrewshire HSCP	£77,999	• 2 FTE Project Workers (soon to be 1)
TOTAL		829,913	 15.5 FTE Project Workers 2.4 FTE Team Leaders 1.6 FTE Service Managers 1 FTE Administrator

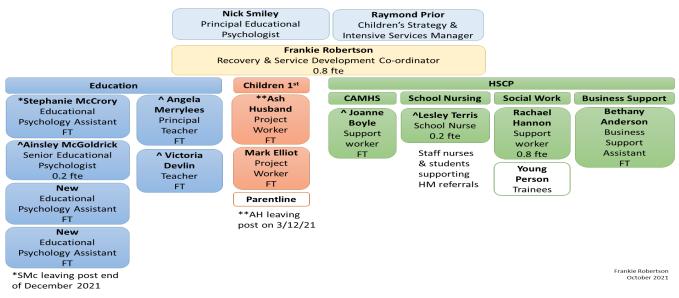
Existing Healthier Minds Hub (multi-disciplinary service) staffing (see structure below)

13 members of staff currently work within the service on a variety of working hour arrangements (full time, part time, 1 or 2 days a week etc)

- 7 are on secondment from Education and Health and have permanent jobs to return to if necessary on 31 March 2022.
 - Recovery and Service Coordinator HSCP (.8 fte)
 - 1 Educational Psychologist Assistant (full time)
 - 1 Senior Educational Psychologist (.2 fte)
 - 1 Principal Teacher (full time)
 - 1 Teacher (full time)
 - Support worker CAMHS (full time)
 - School nurse HSCP (.2 fte)
- 6 are employed on temporary contracts which will end on 31 March 2022 (one has resigned and will leave in December)
 - 2 Educational Psychologists Assistants (started November 2021)
 - 1 Children's 1st Worker (started March 2021)
 - 1 HSCP Support Worker (started January 2021)
 - 1 Business Support Assistant (started November 2020)

Two senior managers from Health and Social Care Partnership and Educational Psychology (Raymond Prior and Nick Smiley) support the management of the Hub and general service direction along with the Recovery and Service Coordinator Frankie Robertson. Also additional health staff have supported the service by taking on referrals. Two Care Experienced Modern Apprentices are aligned to the service a half day per week to support promotion and awareness along with other service development tasks.

Healthier Minds Hub Staffing Structure



<u>New Tendered Healthier Minds Service (Children 1st successful bidder) contract to commence April 2022</u>

Service	Partner	Funding Amount	Staffing
HealthiER Minds and	East Renfrewshire HSCP	299,952	 5.6 FTE Project Workers
Wellbeing			 1 FTE Team Leader

New service will continue to be staffed by the Recovery and Service Development Coordinator.

Tasks Ahead Dependent on Options selected

- Children 1st initiate discussion with Robertson Trust re OPTION 1 to explore whether they will continue funding to current level for an additional period of time (at least one year).
 ACTION: CHILDREN 1st
- HSCP secures funding internally at the same level for OPTION 1 £320,000. <u>OR</u> ERHSCP secures funding internally to cover the current full costs of the entire Family Wellbeing Service service for OPTION 2 £673,915. ACTION: East Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership
- If OPTION 3 is selected (due to OPTIONS 1 and 2 not being feasible) a proportion of Children 1st staff will need to be TUPED over to new Healthier Minds contract (5.6 FTE Project Workers
- 1 FTE Team Leader) and the remainder will require to be made redundant or transferred internally within Children 1st if appropriate vacant posts exist elsewhere in the organisation.
 ACTION: Children 1st.

- A very small Family Wellbeing Service will need to be redesigned with smaller workforce and new reduced targets. This service may be unfeasible.
 ACTION: Children 1st and East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership
- 6. Agree commencement date for new Healthier Minds Service contract to be delivered by Children 1st anticipated start date 1 April 2022.

Arlene Cassidy HSCP Children's Services Strategy Manager 9 November 2021



12 January 2022

To whom it may concern

Since 2019, the pilot of the Family Wellbeing Service has been a partnership between Children 1st, East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership, East Renfrewshire Council and The Robertson Trust. Funding for the trial period came from both East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and The Robertson Trust. The Robertson Trust's investment of £1,045,000 over three years was provided as Social Bridging Finance and, as a condition of this funding, the IJB made a commitment to continue funding the service should it achieve the agreed success criteria outlined in the contract.

These were:

- 1. 50% reduction in repeat presentations to GPs for young people referred to the Family Wellbeing Service with emotional distress by the end of the 2-year service
- 2. 90% of families referred to the Family Wellbeing Service are offered contact within 2 weeks of referral being received from the GP
- 3. The service will work with a minimum of 178 young people each year

I am pleased to share that all parties are satisfied the success criteria have been met and that the pilot has been successful, with further detail on the outcomes achieved by the service available to read in your accompanying papers. A full evaluation of the Social Bridging Finance model, including the experience of the Family Wellbeing Service, will be available in mid-2022. It is worth highlighting that this achievement is even more significant in the context of the pandemic, and we look forward to the continued success of the Family Wellbeing Service.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jim McCormick Chief Executive Jim.mccormick@therobertsontrust.org.uk

The Robertson Trust is a Registered Scottish Charity, No. SC002970



0141 353 7300

