

Delegated Officer Report

Decision Maker: Emma Barton

Date of Decision: 11.01.21

Subject: Expression of Interest to the Economies for Healthier Lives Programme

Report Author: Dave Catherall

Ward (s): All

Reason for the decision:

There is an opportunity to bid for funding to support the ongoing work surrounding the Creating A Better Place Investment Strategy.

The Health Foundation have launched a new funding programme to strengthen relationships between economic development and health. Expressions of interest are invited and are required by 29th January 2021.

The details of the fund are:

- A £1.72million funding programme to support partnerships designed to promote health and reduce health inequalities through economic development strategies
- The Economies for Healthier Lives programme will support up to 4 partnerships across the UK with funding of between £300,000 to £500,000 for up to 3 years
- Partnerships have to be led by a Local Authority bringing together a range of local organisations that has to include an academic partner.

Fundamentally the programme is aimed at helping local areas develop more robust inclusive economies as they emerge from the COVID crisis.

The programme identifies an inclusive economy

as one in which there are opportunities for all, and prosperity is widely shared. Six things that local areas could do to build more inclusive, health-promoting economies have been identified:

- build a thorough understanding of local issues with robust evidence
- develop long-term visions for local economies that are good for people's health
- engage with citizens to build momentum for action
- capitalise on existing local assets and use local powers more actively
- cultivate close working between public health and economic development
- professionals
- provide services that meet people's economic and health needs together.

Expressions of interest need to be submitted by Jan 29th 2021.

The full programme can be found here:

<https://www.health.org.uk/funding-and-partnerships/programmes/economies-for-healthier-lives>

Summary:

A small working group has met to discuss the opportunities that the programme might offer the Council. This has included colleagues from Public health, Policy, Economy and Enterprise, Regeneration and Finance. Discussions have focussed on how current Council and Oldham priorities might be supported with additional capacity including research that this fund might provide.

The Creating A Better Place Investment Strategy is an initiative that will help support the Borough in building and sustaining inclusive growth, thriving communities and the cooperative agenda by+

- Building better quality homes
- Providing opportunities to grow local businesses and create jobs
- Providing opportunities to learn and gain skills
- Supporting Oldham's ambition to become the greenest borough
- Embedding sustainability
- Improving life-chances and the health and

well being of our residents and local communities

This fund will provide an opportunity to explore how Oldham's ambitious economic development programme (containing programmes such as the Future High St Fund and Town's Fund proposals) can build in health advantages such as healthy ageing, whilst delivering jobs and business opportunities.

It is well documented that elements of the built environment are leading causes and contributors to illness and early deaths (e.g. heart disease, cancer, respiratory diseases and injuries) and the evidence suggests that the burden of illness is likely to be greatest in lower socioeconomic groups and minority/vulnerable populations.

The Council is already working with partners including Action Together and CLES on Community Wealth Building initiatives, and in particular Oldham's Green New Deal. The Oldham Green New Deal Strategy focuses on the health and economic co-benefits of environmental and low carbon activity, in particular improvements in air quality, access to quality green space, and the alleviation of fuel poverty as well as the fundamental aim of building a strong and sustainable local economy.

Although there is a considerable amount of discussion and consultation to take place, including with colleagues in Planning, there could be an opportunity to work around Creating a Better Place and Green New Deal to develop a strong proposal for the Expression of interest.

Outcome targets could relate to more joined up leadership approaches, an expansion of community engagement work, and new tools to understand and track improvements in health through projects and schemes (both current and future).

What are the alternative option(s) to be considered? Please give the reason(s) for recommendation(s):

*Option 1: Submit an expression of interest to the Economies for Healthier lives programme.
Option 2: Don't submit an expression of interest to the Economies for Healthier lives programme*

Consultation: including any conflict

NA – portfolio holders to be briefed ahead of

**of interest declared by relevant
Cabinet Member consulted.**

submission

Recommendation(s):

The preferred option/decision

Implications:

*What are the **financial** implications?*

The report represents a request to continue to the expression of interest stage for the application prior to submitting a full application. Although there are no direct financial implications at this stage, it should be noted that, as lead applicant, Oldham Council will represent the partnership. Therefore, if successful, all arrangements for subcontracting and/or transfer of funds to other parties will be the responsibility of the Council.

The Council (as lead partner and if invited to do so), can apply for an award of between £0.3m and £0.5m over a period of up to three years. At the full application stage, it will be necessary to prepare and provide detailed budgetary information on the total cost of the work, what the funds will cover and details of any co-funding or matched funding.

(Andy Moran, Assistant Director of Finance)

*What are the **legal** implications?*

The report is only a request to continue to expression of interest stage, there are no legal implications at this stage

*What are the **procurement** implications?*

There are no procurement implications at this EoI stage.

*What are the **Human Resources** implications?*

NA

*What are the **Children and Young People** Implications?*

None

***Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment** attached or not required because (please give reason)*

NA

*What are the **property** implications*

The report is only a request to continue to expression of interest stage, there are no property implications at this stage.

Risks:

NA at this stage

Co-operative agenda*NA at this stage*

Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution?	Yes
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Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget?	Yes
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Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council?	No
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There are no background papers for this report

In consultation with Director

Signed:



Date: 11.01.2021