

Delegated Officer Report

Decision Maker: Paul Entwistle, Director of Legal services
Anne Ryans, Director of Finance

Date of Decision:

Subject: Oldham, Stronger Together – Controlling Migration Fund

Report Author: Principal Homelessness Strategy Officer

Ward (s): All

Reason for the decision: The report seeks approval to accept grant funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Controlling Migration Fund, and to deliver the activity outlined in the Oldham, Stronger Together bid.

Summary: Some areas within Oldham have experienced significant change in recent years. Areas containing large numbers of relatively low cost private rented accommodation have been attractive to agencies such as Serco in the procurement of accommodation for asylum seekers and also migrant groups moving to the area seeking work. These are often areas where other social issues are prevalent. There have been very high levels of transience within some neighbourhoods which has had a significant impact in terms of community cohesion, community tensions, challenges within schools, overcrowding, crime, anti-social behaviour and general neighbourhood management.

The Council has made a successful application to the Controlling Migration Fund to increase activity to support the integration of new residents in Oldham. The Controlling Migration Fund have offered funding of £602,104 over 2 years for the

project. This supplements the £342,915 which had been awarded from the Big Lottery to fund activity within Oldham over 3 years

This report seeks approval to accept the funding from the Controlling Migration Fund.

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

Option 1 To accept £602,104 from the Controlling Migration Fund and deliver the activity as outlined within the Oldham, Stronger Together bid. This would provide additional resources within this area and enable the council and partner agencies to undertake activity which will provide additional support in the communities impacted by high levels of migration and transience. As this work and the impact is still a key priority for the Districts and other services it will support the delivery of our objectives and support effective integration of new migrants.

Option 2 Do not accept the funding. Services and districts would still have to meet demand and budget pressure to support communities that are experiencing significant demographic change.

Consultation: including any conflict of interest declared by relevant Cabinet Member consulted.

The Oldham, Stronger Together proposal has been discussed with colleagues from across the council also Heads of Service, the Director of Children's Social Care and Early Help, Cabinet Member Co-operatives and Neighbourhoods and the Leader of the Council. The purpose of the bid and its aims in responding to the challenges have been discussed with and supported by the above.

Recommendation(s):

Option 1 To accept £602,104 from the Controlling Migration Fund and deliver the activity as outlined within the Oldham, Stronger Together bid.

Implications:

What are the financial implications?

The preferred option as detailed in the recommendations is to accept a grant to the value of £602,104 from the MHCLG in respect of the Controlling Migration Fund. This will finance the delivery of the activity included within the Oldham, Stronger Together bid upon which the grant award has been made. The grant is to be paid over two financial years, £304,570 in 2018/19 and £279,534 in 2019/20. The detailed breakdown of

the bid is included in the table at section 3 of the attached paper.

It should be noted that this funding is contingent on the MHCLG having continued funding available to support the project and the achievement of satisfactory performance in relation to the activities outlined in the bid. Performance will be assessed via the on-going requirement to report to MHCLG on progress IT will be important to monitor If there any risks and issues affecting the delivery of the scheme.

Should performance not meet the required standard there is a risk of grant clawback. The Council has established processes and procedures which should minimize the risk of any clawback

Should the MHCLG be unable to continue its grant funding at the agreed level or performance in relation to the project aims and objects fall short of requirements, the Council would have to manage the impact of any financial consequences (such as on-going contractual commitments).

Once approved, a further report(s) will be required detailing how the funds will be disbursed.
(Matthew Kearns – Senior Accountant)

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

In implementing this decision the Council must comply with all express and implied conditions subject to which the funding is provided and the provisions of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.

Any subsequent spend of the money must also comply with the funding conditions and where relevant, the provisions of the Council's Contract procedure Rules.(Rebecca Boyle)

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

With regards to the Oldham Stronger Together report, the Internal Contract Procedure Rules will apply to any external expenditure requirements.

The following threshold will apply depending on the value of the external contracts:

£0 - £999 - 1 written quotation
£1,000 and £4,999 - Minimum of 3 written quotes

£5,000 - £49,999 - Minimum of 3 written quotes via The Chest and Contract Finder where contract value > £25,000
£50,000 – EU Threshold - Tender process via The Chest
EU Thresholds and above – EU Procurement procedure via The Chest and TED.

Early engagement with Procurement will help the smooth transition of the award of the external contracts. (Steve Boyd)

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

This report seeks approval to utilise the Controlling Migration Fund monies. This in itself does not have any staffing implications, however it is noted that a separate report will be developed to establish posts if the funding is accepted. (Emma Gilmartin, People Services Business Partner)

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

An initial Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and has not identified any adverse equality impact.

*What are the **property** implications*

Not applicable

Risks:

The Council will have to comply with the terms of the grant or there is a potential risk of grant clawback. The proposals set out in this report are consistent with the bid so this risk is considered very unlikely. (Mark Stenson)

Co-operative agenda

The aim of the Oldham, Stronger Together project is to reduce the impact of migration within communities in Oldham and to support new residents to integrate and settle better into life in Oldham so that they can have a productive life in the town. The activity outlined within the bid will support the development of more cohesive communities.

#Ourbit – We will provide information and support to help new residents moving into Oldham to settle and feel more involved

#Yourbit – To appropriately access the support and engage in the services offered

#Result – Oldham is a town where people feel welcomed and settle into their neighbourhood and community.

Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution? Yes

Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget? Yes

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? No

List of Background Papers under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972:

None

Sign-off:

Paul Entwistle	Signature
Director of Legal Services	<i>PA Entwistle</i>
Date: 11/5/2018	

Anne Ryans	Signature
Director of Finance	<i>A. T. Ryans</i>
Date: 15/5/18	

Please list and attach any appendices:-

Appendix number or letter	Description
1	Background
2	Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix 1 - Oldham, Stronger Together – Controlling Migration Fund

1 Background

- 1.1 In November 2016 the government announced the Controlling Migration Fund (CMF). This fund is available over the four years from 2016-17 to 2019-20 and focuses on responding to the problems caused by high migration into localities as identified by local authorities and will deliver benefits to the established resident population. The impact of migration and particularly in respect of asylum dispersal has been a high profile issue raised by Jim McMahon MP and the Greater Manchester (GM) Mayor.
- 1.2 Some areas within Oldham have experienced significant change in recent years. Areas containing large numbers of relatively low cost private rented accommodation have been attractive to agencies such as Serco in the procurement of accommodation for asylum seekers and also migrant groups moving to the area seeking work. These are often areas where other social issues are prevalent. There have been very high levels of transience within some neighbourhoods which has had a significant impact in terms of community cohesion, community tensions, challenges within schools, overcrowding, crime, anti-social behaviour and general neighbourhood management.
- 1.3 Local ward Councillors and the District Teams are aware of these issues. Some small amounts of funding, partnership activity, and regular communication with residents have assisted in providing some additional support to these neighbourhoods but it was felt that additional funding could support the development of a much more strategic approach.

2 Oldham, Stronger Together

- 2.1 The bid to the Controlling Migration Fund was based on the successful Big Lottery funding bid developed by colleagues in the District Partnerships team. The council was notified in November 2017 that £342,915 had been awarded from the Big Lottery to fund activity within Oldham over 3 years.
- 2.2 Following on from this the 'Oldham, Stronger Together' bid was submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG – now changed to MHCLG) in December 2017. On 12 February 2018 the council was notified that £602,104 had been awarded from the CMF to fund activity within Oldham over 2 years.
- 2.3 It is anticipated that the roles and activities developed and delivered as part of the bid for CMF funding will supplement activity funded through the Lottery bid and help to create a much more co-ordinated approach. It is proposed that an Emerging Communities Team is created to co-ordinate this area of work. In addition an Intelligence Analyst will be recruited to the Business Intelligence Team to increase intelligence into migration patterns within Oldham and an Employment and Learning Mentor will also be recruited to the Get Oldham Working Team to support access to employment. Additional English language provision will be funded including After-School English classes to support engagement and attainment within schools. A new youth programme will support a large number of young people from across all

communities to develop a range of skills including leadership skills which increase their own self-confidence and esteem.

2.4 The main components of the bid are:

- Staffing: 1 FTE Principal Emerging Communities Manager
1 FTE Senior Intelligence Analyst
1 FTE Emerging Communities Project Manager
0.5 FTE Czech Roma Outreach Worker
1 FTE Employment and Learning Mentor
0.5 FTE Youth Worker

It is anticipated that all posts will be recruited on fixed term contracts linked to the period of funding. Separate reports will be drafted to establish posts within the different service areas.

- Language support:
After School English Classes
Basic English Speaking & Listening for people aged 19+
Family Learning
- DynaMIX Youth Project - 70 young people would take part in a 5 day residential from 13 secondary schools. They would then cascade their learning through follow on weekly youth work sessions. It is anticipated that this would reach more than 250 young people each year.

2.5 The proposed Emerging Communities Team will be based within the Stronger Communities Service. The team and project will maintain strong links, and work closely, with the relevant district executives, ward councillors, and district teams.

3 Financial Implications

3.1 The table below sets out the detail of the bid that was sent to and approved by the MHCLG. Funds have been awarded on the basis of the bid. The Council will be required to evidence performance in relation to the objectives of the bid otherwise there is a risk of grant clawback.

	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Total £
Principal Emerging Communities Manager	54,323	54,872	109,195
Senior Intelligence Analyst	49,292	49,791	99,083
Increasing local intelligence – IT costs	9,100		9,100
Community Development Worker	38,494	38,883	77,377
Part-time Czech Roma Outreach Worker	13,717	13,855	27,572
Technology (iPad/mobile phones)	1,000		1,000
Printing, design and translation	3,500	3,500	7,000
Refreshments and transport costs	2,250	2,250	4,500

Volunteer expenses	1,000	1,000	2,000
Advertising costs	1,000	1,000	2,000
Room hire	1,500	1,500	3,000
After School English classes	5,500	5,500	1,1000
Family Learning	11,500	11,500	23,000
Basic English classes age 19+	17,000	17,000	34,000
DynaMIX	55,400	55,400	110,800
Employment and Learning Mentor	38,494	38,883	77,377
Evaluation	1,500	2,500	4,000
Total	304,570	297,534	602,104

Equality Impact Assessment Tool



Click on the symbols to view the guidance for each stage

Stage 1: Initial screening



The Stage One screening is a quick and easy process. It should:

- identify those projects, policies, and proposals which require a full EIA by looking at the potential impact on any of the equality groups
- prioritise if and when a full EIA should be completed
- justify reasons for why a full EIA is not going to be completed

Not all policies will require an EIA: Click on the information symbol to view a set of key questions which will help you to decide whether you need to complete the form. If you do not need to go any further because a full EIA is not required, please ensure that you complete all the questions in Stage 1 and get the EIA signed off by the appropriate person (see Section 5). **Please note, if you are assessing a budget proposal please complete all the questions. The information in 1e, should be transferred to the Equality Impact Screening section on the budget proposal form.**

Lead Officer:	Ann-Marie McGinn
People involved in completing EIA:	
Is this the first time that this project, policy or proposal has had an EIA carried out on it? If no, please state date of original and append to this document for information.	Yes Date of original EIA:

General Information

1a	Which service does this project, policy, or proposal relate to?	Stronger Communities Team leads on the promotion of community cohesion across communities in Oldham and on the government's preventing extremism agenda. They also lead on partnership arrangements around information sharing in respect of reporting hate crime and community tensions.
1b	What is the project, policy or proposal?	Oldham Stronger Together – Funding bid from the Controlling Migration Fund
1c	What are the main aims of the project, policy or proposal?	To increase activity to support the integration of new residents in Oldham. The Controlling Migration Fund

		<p>have offered funding of £602,104 over 2 years for the project.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the roles and activities developed and delivered as part of the Oldham Stronger Together bid will help to create a much more co-ordinated approach. It is proposed that an Emerging Communities Team is created to co-ordinate this area of work. This will include a Principal Emerging Communities Officer, a Community Development Worker and a part time Outreach Worker to undertake work within districts impacted by increasing levels of transience and new migration. In addition an Intelligence Analyst will be recruited to the Business Intelligence Team to increase intelligence into migration patterns within Oldham and an Employment and Learning Mentor will also be recruited to the Get Oldham Working Team to support access to employment. Additional English language provision will be funded including After-School English classes to support engagement and attainment within schools. A new youth programme will support a large number of young people from across all communities to develop a range of skills including leadership skills which increase their own self-confidence and esteem.</p>
1d	<p>Who, potentially, could this project, policy or proposal have a detrimental effect on, or benefit, and how?</p>	<p>The project focuses on responding to the problems caused by high migration into neighbourhoods within Oldham and will deliver benefits to the established resident population, new residents and the council and partner agencies.</p> <p>The activities delivered as part of this project will support some of the most vulnerable residents within the borough. Some areas within Oldham have experienced significant change in recent years. Areas containing large numbers of relatively low cost private rented accommodation have been attractive to agencies such as Serco in the procurement of accommodation for asylum seekers and also migrant groups moving to the area seeking work. These are often areas where other social issues are prevalent. There have been very high levels of transience (41% change in residence in some areas within twelve months) within some neighbourhoods which has had a significant impact in terms of community cohesion, community tensions, challenges within schools, overcrowding, crime, anti-social behaviour and general neighbourhood management.</p>

By increasing local intelligence and automating this process as much as possible will mean that we have an up to date picture on migration and that we can further develop deeper bespoke analysis into community characteristics, housing patterns, etc., and start to consider predicting future migration and area change. Going forward it is anticipated that this will be used further to inform service planning and targeting interventions or activity which we of benefit to all of the communities in Oldham.

A guide will be developed which will help new arrivals settle and support correct access to services, including advice around some ways to develop English language skills through self-help (e.g. ESOL at Home). It would provide everything a new arrival needs to know about life in Oldham e.g. health services, education, benefits and support available to access employment. It would be made available through Oldham's thriving voluntary sector and translated so that residents could understand it.

There will also be informal monthly workshops held in community venues to talk through the guide and provide the chance for residents to meet services directly and ask any questions. As part of the project we will also provide supported visits to community facilities, e.g. sports centre, library, parks etc. to encourage access to and use of services already available. Increased support to access community facilities, for example sports facilities, which will increase opportunities for different groups to mix and support cohesion. In developing the guide and delivering the workshops and providing additional support to enable people to access services correctly and to gain an increased understanding of life in Oldham we anticipate it would help new communities to settle, feel more part of a community and become more integrated. Some of the issues that the existing communities are stating are of concern, e.g. fly-tipping, could be resolved by providing new residents with information on how to correctly dispose of their waste through the guide and during engagement sessions.

Improved English skills will support the development of more positive relationships between existing communities and new migrants leading to increased residential stability and stronger place based identity that leads to stronger community infrastructure and improved resilience. Developing an increased sense of community, ownership and pride, along with

	<p>understanding of cultural norms will lead to reduced transience, as well as reductions in ASB, crime, flytipping, etc. Reducing the high rate of transience in these areas would help to stabilise the local housing market, reassuring existing homeowners, who have seen the value of their properties reduce over the last few years.</p> <p>The youth project will also develop leadership and active citizenship enabling young people to initiate youth led activities and initiatives within their own communities. It will enable young people from different communities in Oldham to mix more and increase understanding of different communities within the borough.</p> <p>All of the above together will see reductions in community tensions (including hate crimes, neighbour disputes, etc.), increased involvement in civic society and generally improved quality of life for both existing and migrant communities</p>
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1e. Does the project, policy or proposal have the potential to <u>disproportionately</u> impact on any of the following groups? If so, is the impact positive or negative?				
	None	Positive	Negative	Not sure
Disabled people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Particular ethnic groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Men or women (include impacts due to pregnancy / maternity)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People of particular sexual orientation/s	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in a Marriage or Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People who are proposing to undergo, are undergoing or have undergone a process or part of a process of gender reassignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People on low incomes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in particular age groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Groups with particular faiths and beliefs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any other groups that you think may be affected negatively or positively by this project, policy or proposal?				
<i>E.g. vulnerable residents, homeless people, individuals at risk of loneliness, carers or serving and ex-serving members of the armed forces</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

If the answer is “negative” or “not sure” consider doing a full EIA

<p>1f. What do you think that the overall NEGATIVE impact on groups and communities will be? <u>Please note that an example of none / minimal impact would be where there is no negative impact identified, or there will be no change to the service for any groups.</u> Wherever a negative impact has been identified you should consider completing the rest of the form.</p>	None / Minimal	Significant
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1g	Using the screening and information in questions 1e and 1f, should a full assessment be carried out on the project, policy or proposal?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1h	How have you come to this decision?	<p>The aim of the Oldham, Stronger Together project is to reduce the impact of migration within communities in Oldham and to support new residents to integrate and settle better into life in Oldham so that they can have a productive life in the town. The activity outlined within the bid will support the development of more cohesive communities.</p> <p>#Ourbit – We will provide information and support to help new residents moving into Oldham to settle and feel more involved #Yourbit – To appropriately access the support and engage in the services offered #Result – Oldham is a town where people feel welcomed and settle into their neighbourhood and community.</p>

If you need to complete a full EIA, please go on to Stage 2.

Stage 5: Signature		
Lead Officer:	Date:	
Approver signature:	Date:	
EIA review date:		

