

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting17th May 2012

1. Title of Item/Report

'Troubled Families' Programme

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet considered a report relating to the Government's 'Troubled Families' programme and how it would operate in Stockton.

It was explained that details of the Financial Framework associated with the programme had been received at the end of March 2012, which had allowed the Council to make an assessment of the financial impact and risk levels involved in delivering the programme.

Members noted some of the key points of the programme and considered a Financial Analysis of estimated funding availability

It was explained that the Head of Community Protection had been designated as the strategic lead for the programme in Stockton, reporting to the Corporate Management Team, and would be supported in this role by officers from a range of service areas, including Community Protection, Children's Services, Children, Schools and Complex Needs, and Regeneration and Economic Development. Stockton's participation in the programme had been confirmed, because such confirmation was required by Communities and Local Government (CLG) by 30 April. In view of the number of Cabinet portfolios affected by the programme it was proposed that the Leader of the Council should take overall lead responsibility for the programme.

It was proposed that the Council approach the first year of the programme on the basis of investing up to the full year equivalent of £412,000 in enhancements to service delivery to the target group of families, and increase that by anything up to a further £100,000 (i.e. £512,000 in total) if and when it was confirmed that the 'co-ordinator funding' could be recycled into delivery (either directly or indirectly), in whole or in part. In addition, any achievement of results payments over and above the 50% success rate would be available for re-investment in the programme. A 'Troubled Families' cost centre had been established and all income and expenditure would be passed through this cost centre

under the usual delegated powers.

It was proposed to profile the starts as follows:

| | | |
|--------|-----|--|
| year 1 | 40% | - 152 +30 = 182 (year 1 figure advised to CLG) |
| year 2 | 35% | - 133 +26 = 159 |
| year 3 | 25% | - 94 +20 = 114 |
| 379 | 76 | 455 |

This pattern was based on the view that it would become progressively more difficult to secure engagement from the target families, as the Council started with the most willing to engage and proceed through to trying to work with the least willing (it would also have the collateral benefit of securing a greater proportion of up front attachment fees).

RESOLVED that

1. the approach to the Council's involvement in delivering the 'Troubled Families' programme, set out above, and in the report at paragraphs 9 and 10, be approved.

2. the Leader of the Council take the overall lead responsibility for the programme.

3. Reasons for the Decision

1. In order to provide a clear basis for delivery of the programme.

2. In order to provide for practicable decision-making in case the need for urgent decisions outside the Cabinet cycle should arise.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

None

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By no later than midnight on Friday 25 May 2012

Proper Officer
21 May 2012