

DECISION-MAKER:	The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Clean Growth & Development, following consultation with the Joint Commissioning Board		
SUBJECT:	Community Based Play and Youth Provision for 0-19 year olds		
DATE OF DECISION:	13 December 2018		
REPORT OF:	Director of Quality and Integration		
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
NOT APPLICABLE			
<u>BRIEF SUMMARY</u>			
<p>The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Clean Growth & Development, following consultation with the Joint Commissioning Board (JCB) is being asked to approve proposals for progressing the procurement of play and youth support services from the community and voluntary sector.</p> <p>Currently play provision is achieved by supporting local voluntary groups with funding from the grants to voluntary organisation's budget. The proposal is to use this money plus some additional money from existing contracts and a contribution from CAMHS Future in Mind funding to commission a new service. The procurement arrangements would ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City-wide play provision and targeted family support that incorporates supervised play across three lots (for different types of play provision) each seeking a single provider. This would also ensure ongoing provision of associated parenting and family support alongside supervised play for a guaranteed number of families referred into the service. • Scope for an increase in the range of community / area based youth programmes and projects in the City as a single lot with potential for multiple awards. • Scope for an increase in the range of youth providers who provide a structured offer across multiple sites on different days as a single lot with potential for multiple awards. • Arrangements for securing the maintenance and availability of Weston Adventure Playground as a key asset for the delivery of high quality play and youth provision for current and future generations through a separate procurement. <p>The advantages of this process to undertake a procurement of contracted services is that it will achieve alignment of spend with strategic priorities than is currently possible through procuring similar such services through the grant programmes.</p>			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	Delegate authority to the Director of Integration and Quality, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing, the Cabinet Member for Aspiration, Schools and Lifelong	

		Learning, and the Cabinet Member for Homes and Culture, to proceed with procurement of City-wide Play and Youth provision to better meet future play and youth requirements. This should include authority to make short term grant awards to bridge any gaps in funding that might otherwise undermine transition to the implementation of the new services during the 2019-20 financial year.
	(ii)	Delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing, the Director of Integration and Quality, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Aspiration, Schools and Lifelong Learning, and the Cabinet Member for Homes and Culture, to proceed with a direct award to the current trustees of Weston Adventure Playground to secure the ongoing maintenance of the building and facilities at the site to a high standard, conditional upon the continuing availability of the facilities as a venue and platform for a range of accessible, affordable play and youth activities.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	The recommended approach will create an approach to the commissioning of play and youth provision in the City that would be replicable and expandable in future, both in relation to Council and Clinical Commissioning Group funding for such activities, but also in relation to establishing effective commissioning arrangements that would support effective early use of any additional collaborative City-Wide funding, such as through initiatives such as the Child Friendly Southampton Fund, as and when such developments come on stream. It also addresses the Council's wider policy objective of shifting the commissioning of longer standing community needs from dependence on council grant funding to an approach which can be better linked to City priorities for play and youth as these may change over time.
2.	Commissioning such services via the procurement route suggested would also provide better potential for contractual accountability for both service delivery, and for stimulating a collaborative community and voluntary sector for children, young people and families as a whole. The proposed approach would complement the recently approved approach to the future procurement of Community Development relating to the wider vibrancy of the community and voluntary sector, including better alignment with volunteering, external funding opportunities, links to wider community development and additional investment to directly build capacity that contributes to emotional wellbeing and mental health outcomes in children and young people.
3.	The proposed approach takes full advantage of the City's integrated commissioning arrangements to achieve best value for both the Council and Health Services jointly commission something more far reaching in relation to children, young people and families around play and youth than either could afford to create on their own.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

4.	Continuation of the SCC Grants programme for the commissioning of community and voluntary sector provision was considered. This option has been rejected on the basis that it would not have been consistent with the strategic direction of travel away from grants for funding community and voluntary sector services which meet established long term community needs.
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5.	Using the end of the grants programme to decommission existing grant funded play and youth activity, and offer the funding saved towards corporate savings requirements was considered. This option has been rejected on the basis that it would further reduce an already small provision for children and families in the City and be detrimental to partnerships that have been built up with the community and voluntary sector to develop their role as providers. The corporate grants review was based on trust that the purpose of the review was not to cut funding for commissioning from the community and voluntary sector, but to maximise value from it. Taking savings from this pot would not only break faith with those assurances, but would also severely impact on the development of this market and hold back much needed play and youth provision for children and young people in the City.
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DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

6.	This paper outlines the next stages of progress towards the implementation of the Cabinet decision to move to a more integrated approach to funding voluntary sector organisations, with specific regard to the play and youth grants.
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Background

7.	Grant funded play provision in the City is currently a combination of mainly city-wide provision, and more locally focussed investment in dedicated specific assets of significance to the City's infrastructure for high quality supervised play.
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8.	Grant funded youth provision in the City is a more mixed picture. Some provision is for area based youth projects in some areas of relative disadvantage. Other provision is for youth provision that can be run across a number of sites, to stretch the local offer. Typically the latter provision involves providers that use their own staff and volunteers to deliver their offer, but use others' facilities to make it locally accessible to the widest range of young people possible. In relation to youth rather than play, there is a stronger position of inequity in City-wide access to the offer and so this has been a key strategic need that commissioners have been working on with providers, young people and others to attempt to address through the recommended procurement.
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9.	<p>Following the grant review a decision was taken by the City Council's Cabinet to use grants primarily for services which were innovative and short term. In relation to more established services that meet longer term community and service user needs it was agreed that this funding should transition into the more formal procurement of contracted services against specifications that protect the integrity of the community need met. Grant funded services were categorised according to the following broad categorisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play and youth services provision for children, young people and families (which is the focus of this report). • Community Development services that underpins the vitality of the local community and voluntary sector. • Information, advice and associated support to provide individuals and families with help in relation to a wide range of issues. • Employment support services that help people back into education, employment and training.
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10.	Funding from one previously grant funded service (Breakout Youth) was incorporated into a separate procurement earlier this year. That service is now in place.
11	For the play and youth services financially supported by the Council, commissioners undertook an assessment of local need for such services, including a review of the services and activities provided, mapped against social need in the City and wider play and youth activities, engagement of existing and potential new providers, and engagement with young people in relation to their priorities in respect of such services. By way of approach, achieving future provision of established play and youth services for local communities via a procurement rather than grants also allows for better alignment of commissioning resources with outcomes. Procurement of services against a service specification with identified performance indicators allows for much more control over priorities than is typically possible when making a grant award.

Local need for play and youth services

12.	Much of the grant funded play and youth services in the City has been established for over twenty years, and has therefore become embedded in the fabric of the City offer. More generally there is extensive evidence that at every stage, from infancy to early adulthood, exposure to a range of positive, stimulating opportunities throughout supports the normal and healthy development of children into confident, independent adults. Many of the differences between groups based upon social disadvantage appear to indicate the impact of disadvantage is most extreme when it translates into childhood environments that are poor in terms of positive opportunities for play, skills development and similar such experiences. The importance of the right activities is that they should cater to the differences of different people.
13.	In broad terms, most of the social interaction that takes place between children and young people between birth and adulthood might be called “play”. As children develop it is normal for them to pass through a number of developmental stages that mark specific steps in their physical, cognitive, social, emotional and wider development. One such difference is that as children mature they tend to think of themselves as young people, and then young adults. This development happens at different ages for each individual, but shapes changes in their interest in how they play, what they play, and who they play with.
14.	In designing a play and youth offer for 0-19 year olds it is important to bear in mind that when we talk about “play” activities, we are talking about a range of activities that generally involve children in the age range 0-14, and that youth activity generally involves young people in the age range 10-19. One activity may be either play or youth, depending upon the context, and how the participant identified with it. The personal impact and benefit of access to these activities, whether we call them “play” or “youth” are the same; normal, healthy, sociable, resilient individuals who can empathise with those around them, and who care for and about those around them.
15.	For this reason, in structuring a Play and Youth offer for the City, officers have sought to understand Play and Youth activities as separate propositions, but with recognition that there will be an overlap to ensure an offer that is inclusive and family friendly, but which also pitches itself to children and young people in terms of services and activities that they can identify with.

	Positive activities for older young people also has a wider social value. Many adults report finding the congregation of young people in groups around public areas intimidating, and this can lead to both fear of and reports of anti-social behaviour.
16.	Most consultation, with providers and with children and young people has affirmed a view that there is a continuing need for more opportunities for play and youth type activities in the City. Mapping (see Appendix 4) of the play and youth offer has indicated that there are much greater gaps in the coverage of the youth offer within the City than is the case in relation to play. Given the relative lack of independence of young people in having access to safe transportation compared to adults, this is seen as a priority that should be addressed if possible through future procurement. Existing youth provision was mapped against deprivation in the City. Deprivation is being used here as a proxy for easy access both to good or free resources either within their own household, or outside of the immediate neighbourhood they live in. Based purely upon this mapping, the main areas of high social need, not known to be covered by existing youth provision include Millbrook/ Redbridge, Thornhill Estate, Townhill, Harefield and Aldermoor.

Consultation with providers of play and youth services

17.	<p>To date there have been two specific market engagement events run for current and potential providers of play and youth activities. The purpose of these sessions was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information about the grant review and confirm its scope in relation to play and youth funded services. • Engage with potential and current providers in relation to options for the different delivery of play and youth services from the community and voluntary sectors, especially in relation to capacity to work collaboratively in the management of larger contracts, the recruitment, induction and support of volunteers and joint efforts in relation to external funding.
18.	Whilst it was recognised that there is considerable overlap between the respective age ranges of play services and youth services, it was noted that the City’s community and voluntary sector “play offer” is distinctive and different from the City’s youth offer. With this in mind, the key messages taken from these events are summarised below.
19.	Key messages relating to “Play” provision in the City included that whilst there is significant goodwill between providers in relation to collaboration over specific initiatives, there is little direct experience of collaboration in relation to the joint delivery of services. It was concluded from this that there is not an existing local market for having a single lead provider for all commissioned play provision. On this basis commissioners have focussed subsequent thinking on the future market place according to specific lots relating to particular types of play offer. There did seem to be genuine interest in and commitment to collaboration between existing providers of play. This is in fact already evidenced through the annual collaboration of play organisations in the City’s Annual Play Day.
20.	Key messages relating to “Youth” provision in the City also included that whilst there is significant goodwill between providers in relation to collaboration over specific initiatives, they have relatively little direct experience of collaboration in relation to the joint delivery of services. Most

	<p>commissioned youth provision is for area specific youth projects that are managed independently of each other, and work with young people from separate communities. There is some existing synergy between provision such as Saints Foundation using area based provision to extend their own reach to bring additional activities to existing area based programmes. But this falls well short of a level of City-wide youth sector collaboration. It was concluded from this that there is not an existing local market for having a single lead provider for all commissioned youth provision. There is considerable scope, particularly in relation to youth activities for providers in the City to be more proactive in helping the young people they work with also to access positive complementary youth opportunities, such as the National Citizenship Service, which is funded from outside the City, and which has capacity to support more local young people in accessing a range of new and familiar activities to build their confidence, self-esteem, meet new people and make new friends. It was noted that there is capacity within the National Citizenship Service to benefit far greater numbers of young people in the City.</p>
21.	<p>Other key messages relating to both play and youth provision in the City included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different providers have very mixed experiences in relation to attracting external funding. More support for this aspect of future capacity will be important if the Council is to use the commissioning of play and youth offers to stimulate growth in the overall size of the local play and youth offer. There was support for the idea of links to achieve better support from Community Development services, as children and young people's community and voluntary sector organisations often feel marginalised by current arrangements. • There was some significant concern that if the Council overly focusses upon the importance of bringing in additional funding on top of any directly contracted service funding, that this might disadvantage local grass roots community and voluntary sector activity in the City by attracting bigger voluntary sector providers with no particular attachment to the City, and to the detriment of collaboration between local providers. • Whatever changes the City makes to its community and voluntary sector funding arrangements for play and youth, it is likely to have positive and negative, and planned and unplanned consequences. This being the case commissioners should at least be mindful of the timing of any changes in these arrangements. Just as schools are busiest during term times, many community and voluntary sector activities tend to be busiest during school holidays. Mobilisation periods for transition to the new service should be long (ideally 4-6 months) and tender processes should be timed to avoid disrupting preparation for activities (volunteer recruitment, DBS checks, training etc.) during school Summer holiday periods.
22.	<p>There was no real indication of a current market-place for working under a Lead Provider arrangement. There was more enthusiasm for the idea of being part of a city-wide forum to encourage the development of both Play and Youth services in the City, statutory services awareness and understanding of them, and to facilitate and broker specific opportunities for collaboration. For example modern expectations around service standards, quality, induction and safeguarding rightly raise the bar around volunteer engagement, training and workforce development and funding opportunities. Though it was also</p>

	<p>noted that due to limited “corporate” capacity, meetings need to be focussed and purposeful as sometimes the sector feels that its time and trouble is taken for granted, because what their services bring to children, young people and families do not easily translate into statutory measures.</p>
<p><u>Consultation with Young People</u></p>	
<p>23.</p>	<p>Consultation with young people in relation to the proposal has extended across three meetings with the City’s Youth Forum which brings together young people from across the City. Membership comprises young people from a number of schools, colleges, youth projects and includes the City’s UK Youth MP. The first meeting happened in 2017, and encouraged the forum to describe main areas of need in the City using a map based engagement activity. This allowed young people to highlight areas of good provision and concern across Southampton and the areas just outside the City. Feedback was mainly targeted towards “youth” activity for children and young people, rather than in relation to play. Key headlines included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City has a really good range of activities for young people, but many of these are inaccessible due to cost, transport accessibility and/or when they are open not suiting young people. • There are quite a few areas of the City (often linked to deprivation) where young people are concerned that public spaces are not “safe” and there is fear of violence, crime as well as drug-dealing. This is a barrier to young people feeling able to use them as they otherwise might. • Having safe, positive places to do things is good for young people’s confidence, their ability to settle into a new area, find and make friends and to discover interests and talents. For the youth offer to work best, it needs to offer a range of activities. School / college based activities are often good, but can exclude those young people that do not attend that school or college. • There was definite agreement from young people that support for youth activities would promote positive mental health outcomes. Many young people concerned about mental health don’t need specialist mental health support, they need safe people to talk to, and things to do that allow them to relax and have fun. • It should be easier for young people to find out about activities that might interest them in their area, especially for young people who might be new to the area.
<p>24.</p>	<p>Part of the Youth Forum’s wider role has been to identify more broadly young people’s concerns about the City and priorities for improvement. These have been recently updated in Southampton for 2018-19 and include concerns about:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knife crime. 2. Mental health and emotional wellbeing. 3. Opportunities for skills development and employment prospects. 4. Concerns about homelessness. <p>Whilst not directly transferable to play and youth provision, priority 1 has implications for whether young people feel that seemingly free open space in the City is actually accessible for safe congregation and recreation. There was strong agreement that good and varied youth provision would contribute to positive mental health outcomes (priority 2).</p>

25.	<p>In terms of priority areas for council funded youth provision it was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two main areas of the City currently supported by youth projects (Weston and the St Mary's / Newtown / Nicolstown and Northam areas) do remain high priority areas for youth projects. • There are also a range of other areas not felt to have sufficient area based youth activities. A number of areas were specifically mentioned, including: Coxford/Aldermoor, Harefield/ Townhill Park, Sholing / Bitterne and Thornhill.
26.	<p>In terms of what constitutes an attractive youth offer beyond area based activity, discussions with the Forum identified a range of activities that potentially interest young people. These include sports based activities (including water based activities), performing arts (music, dance, drama), art and craft based creative activities, game based activities (including computer based games), nature based activities (conservation, walking) and a range of other specific skill based activities (e.g. bicycle repair and maintenance).</p>
<p><u>Wider consultation</u></p>	
27.	<p>In addition to the above consultation wider discussions, including at Cabinet Member Briefings have identified that future procurement of play and youth services should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be needs based, with a particular emphasis given to areas of relatively high socio-economic deprivation, and to areas with limited existing provision outside of council commissioned provision. • Encourage providers to collaborate, especially in relation to avoiding duplication of provision, and/or council funded provision competing against existing provision that does not have the benefit of such funding. • Be open to new providers and / or models of delivery where this can improve the accessibility and reach of the offer, and encourage innovation in the sector. • Focus the majority of any additional funding on addressing the areas of greatest shortfall which were seen to be in relation to youth provision for older young people in the City.
28.	<p>Beyond specific consultation in relation to the details of this procurement to develop a locally commissioned play and youth offer commissioners have also given consideration to consistent messages from Southampton Residents' Satisfaction Surveys that things to do for children and young people should be a priority for improvement.</p>
<p><u>Proposed procurement approach for play and youth offer</u></p>	
29.	<p>The proposed model of future play and youth provision is informed by the needs mapping, assessment and consultation work carried out to date, together with some work that has been carried out to evaluate potential future service models. If authority to procure is secured it is proposed that the content of the final procured play offer as described in the service specifications along with the arrangements for calling off contracts and the tender documentation, and the final longer term grant funded youth offer will be subject to more detailed consultation with children and young people (via the Youth Forum) and with the Cabinet Member for Aspiration, Schools and Lifelong Learning, and the Cabinet Member for Homes and Culture.</p>

30.	<p>In relation to the “Play” offer, commissioners anticipate a procurement that centres around three lots that would be part of the wider “play and youth procurement. A separate standalone procurement to secure the maintenance and continuing availability for use by others of facilities at Weston Adventure Playground is also proposed, as set out previously. In relation to the three “Play” Lots in this wider procurement, it is anticipated that each would result in awards to only one provider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of City-wide adventure play and holiday play schemes. One provider would lead the management and delivery of this contract, though where appropriate they would be welcome to work with other providers, including through sub-contracting arrangements. • Provision of City-wide play between parents and toddlers and the management, maintenance and delivery of a toy library service. One provider would lead the management and delivery of this contract, though where appropriate they would be welcome to work with other providers, including through sub-contracting arrangements. <p>Provision of parenting and family support services alongside supervised play for under fives for a guaranteed number of families referred into the service, with anticipated options for payment on a family by family basis for extra families supported. It is anticipated that only one provider would lead the management and delivery of this contract, working closely with Children and Families services.</p>
31.	<p>In relation to the “Youth” offer, commissioners anticipate a procurement that centres around two lots, subject to approval and final arrangements for confirmation and finalisation either of which might result in awards to more than one provider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area based youth programmes where one provider runs a range of positive diversionary activities for young people living in an area, perhaps working with other providers to extend that offer in relation to sports, arts, cultural, dance, music or other interest based activities. • City-wide youth programmes that provide opportunities for young people from across the City to experience a particular type of activity. These might be wide ranging: sports, arts, cultural, dance, music or other interest based activities. It is envisaged that these might be delivered by providers of such activities working with others (schools, colleges, church halls, community centres, area based youth programmes) to offer activities not otherwise easily accessible to young people, and which allow them to develop specific skills and experiences. This might be complemented by delivery from a specific venue (if it is accessible), but not solely from such premises.
32.	<p>Whilst a small figure in commissioning terms, the proposed net investment of £30,000 of CAMHS Prevention Funding, from the Clinical Commissioning Group, into this procurement will have a significant impact on the overall future level of funding we are looking to commission from the sector for these services. Overall the proposed procurement would represent an additional net investment in play and youth activities compared to the equivalent “commissioned” offer that it would replace equivalent to around 15%. The significant majority of the additional funding, £25,000 p.a. , would be allocated to youth related provision rather than play, as needs assessment indicates that there are many more gaps in provision City-wide in relation to youth</p>

	activities for young people than is the case in relation to play activities. A smaller increase in net investment £5,000 p.a. would be allocated to the play related provision.
33.	In relation to Weston Adventure Playground, there is an additional complication in that the facility supported by grant funding has a unique status that does not lend itself to market testing. Weston Adventure Playground was established using awards from the Millennium Fund to establish a high quality facility for safe, adventure play on the Weston Estate. The Council supported the application for this funding through the leasing of its land upon which the facility was established. As the Council was not eligible to receive the funding, the buildings and facilities established on this land are not owned by the Council, but by an independent charitable trust for Weston Adventure Playground. Without a certain level of funding to maintain the safety and quality of these facilities, there is a risk this facility would need to close.
34.	Since there is no conceivable marketplace of providers for maintaining the operation of Weston Adventure Playground, commissioners recommend that a maintenance contract is directly awarded to the current trustees to the facilities managed through the site, stipulating under that contract key expectations that the facility will maximise play and youth opportunities for children and young people in that area, and for the City as a whole.

Services proposed for inclusion in play and youth procurement that were not previously SCC Grant funded

35.	Also incorporated into the recommended model is a separate play lot to support the future commissioning of Family Support services for struggling families with pre-school age children, (including supervised play). This service is currently commissioned as a stand-alone provision. Its incorporation into this procurement will help ensure a commissioning of provision that supports the widest possible approach to joining up play and youth activities that support family life in seeking to give Southampton children a good start in life, and help to maximise service awareness of the commissioned offer. This will also prove a better use of council resources than would be achieved by continuing to commission such services under separate procurements.
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RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Revenue

36.	<p>The grant funded play and youth services covered by this report are described for context in Appendix 1. The other (currently commissioned through a separate procurement) service recommended for inclusion in the scope of this report is described in more detail for context in Appendix 2 to this report with an illustrative overview of the funding also set out in Appendix 3. For ease of reference, the current services (and current annual equivalent funding) from which the proposed SCC contribution to this procurement would come include totals £198,515 per annum from current budgets. This is currently spent according to the following allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southampton Community Play Association - £62,455 • Southampton Community Playlink - £24,599 • Weston Adventure Playground - £20,115 • Weston Church Youth Project - £28,265
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cityreach Youth Project - £25,341 • Saints Foundation - £14,740 • Avenue Project - £23,000 																										
37.	One year grant allocations for 2018-19 were made to the above organisations at the above amounts following a closed grant refresh exercise during February and March 2018. This also provided more up to date information for the Council in relation to the activities and services run by each provider, the numbers benefitting from them, and wider information in relation to their management, governance and wider funding.																										
38.	In addition, Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCCG) are proposing investment from CAMHS Future in Mind funding to contribute to preventative mental health resilience and early help mental health / emotional wellbeing capacity in respect of community and voluntary sector capacity, skills and training. The additional funding (£30,000 per annum for the life of the contract period) seeks to better recognise and utilise the role that the community and voluntary sector play in helping children and young people cope with, and find help in relation to situations that are damaging their mental health and emotional wellbeing. It is intended to increase the value of existing community and voluntary sector capacity, and to build upon current SCC investment, not to replace funding reductions.																										
39.	<p>The total funding available therefore comes to a total annual equivalent value of £228,515 p.a. It is proposed that it be split across the procurements and Lots recommended in this report as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play related provision - £115,054 p.a. • Youth related provision - £93,552 p.a. • Direct award to Weston Adventure Playground - £20,000 p.a. 																										
40.	<p>The above sources of funding and planned expenditure are summarised as follows:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Proposed Funding per annum</th> <th style="text-align: right;">£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="2">Southampton City Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding-left: 20px;">Grants to voluntary organisations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southampton Community Play Association</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£62,455</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southampton Community Playlink</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£24,599</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weston Adventure Playground</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£20,115</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weston Church Youth Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£28,265</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cityreach Youth Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£25,341</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saints Foundation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£14,740</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding-left: 20px;">Children Services commissioned Services</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Avenue Project - funding from troubled families for 2019/20 and then from Early Help in subsequent years.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£23,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CAMHS Future in mind</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£30,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Proposed Funding per annum	£	Southampton City Council		Grants to voluntary organisations		Southampton Community Play Association	£62,455	Southampton Community Playlink	£24,599	Weston Adventure Playground	£20,115	Weston Church Youth Project	£28,265	Cityreach Youth Project	£25,341	Saints Foundation	£14,740	Children Services commissioned Services		Avenue Project - funding from troubled families for 2019/20 and then from Early Help in subsequent years.	£23,000	Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group		CAMHS Future in mind	£30,000
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	<p>Total proposed funding <u><u>£228,515</u></u></p> <p>Proposed procurement</p> <p>Play related provision £115,054</p> <p>Youth related provision £93,461</p> <p>Direct award to Weston Adventure Playground £20,000</p> <p>Total proposed procurement <u><u>£228,515</u></u></p>
41.	<p>The proposed timescale for taking forward this procurement if approved would see service specifications, contract call-off arrangements and other tender documentation completed between now and February 2019. This pre tender period would also include communication with the potential provider market. It is anticipated that a tender process would run between mid-March and mid-May 2019, with evaluation starting in May 2019 and contract awards being recommended in June 2019. It is envisaged that new services will commence around October 2019. As grants for the services currently commissioned through play and youth grants are due to expire on 31 March it is recommended that authority is delegated at this time to extend any existing grants as necessary to ensure there are no periods where important community and voluntary sector services would be unfunded during the 2019-20 financial year where this would undermine the financial stability of potential play and youth providers. Progression of the proposed direct award of a maintenance contract with Weston Adventure Playground will be progressed with SCC procurement as soon as possible so that negotiations with the Trustees can start in early January for incorporation into wider service specifications of details about the play and youth service facilities this will open up for additional delivery.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">KRP</p>
Property/Other	
42.	<p>The Council owns the land upon which Weston Adventure Playground is built. The buildings and play facilities on the land are owned by the charitable trust that runs Weston Adventure Playground. If maintenance of these facilities were to fail as a result of this commissioning, it is understood that costs for the maintenance of the facilities on this land would ultimately rest with the Council. It is understood that a restrictive covenant for 25 years from the development of the facility (in 2001) ensures that the use of the buildings and facilities on this land are for play purposes. It is understood that failure to comply with this could result in clawback of this investment by the Big Lottery Fund on behalf of the original investor.</p>
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
43.	<p>S.1 Localism Act 2011 permits a Council to do anything a private citizen may do in the furtherance of its functions provided it is not otherwise prevented from doing so by any statutory restriction (the general power of competence). The proposals within this report are within the scope of this power and not otherwise prevented by other statutory requirements or restrictions.</p>

Other Legal Implications:	
44.	Changes in the long standing grant allocations by local authorities have been subject to judicial review in England from time to time. Depending upon the outcome of the change from grant award to contract (in the case of proposals for services that support play) and changes in grant award (in the case of proposals relating to services that support youth activity) it is possible that individual organisations might challenge the process followed by the Council. Officers have worked to reduce the risk of such challenge through engagement with current providers, responding to their concerns (for example in relation to the timing of tenders), and ensuring that proposed changes are well communicated, and reflect real changes in community needs and the priorities of the City. Changes to grants are required to be consulted on in accordance with the requirements of the local consultation compact and taking into account the Councils duties in accordance with the Equalities Act 2010. An equalities impact assessment to understand the impact of the grant proposals has been completed to inform the decision in this regard.
CONFLICT OF INTEREST IMPLICATIONS	
45.	None.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
46.	<p>The main risks associated with changing the model through which the Council and its commissioning and service partners commission the future provision of play and youth services include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Loss of established providers, and associated external funding to the City could undermine existing patterns of referral from statutory services and make it harder for children, young people, families and professionals to connect to community based services that might help them. Management of this risk will be achieved by a fair, but simple procurement process that encourages the participation of community and voluntary sector providers of play and youth activity, reflective of their corporate capacity to participate in procurement tender processes. 2. Loss of Weston Adventure Playground to the delivery of play and youth activity, and associated additional risk of financial obligations for the Council in maintaining protection of these facilities if they are lost to use. It is proposed to manage this risk through exploring scope for direct award of contract for the maintenance and management of this site. 3. Risk of legal challenge to the outcome of the procurement is always a potential risk with any procurement. In practice, this is not significantly different to the potential risk of challenge to changes in grant awards. Management of this risk will be achieved through an inclusive, proportionate and fair procurement process.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
47.	The proposals in this report are consistent with the Council's policy framework, the City's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Southampton City CCG's CAMHS Local Transformation Plan.
KEY DECISION?	Yes
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	The proposals affect children, young people and parents/carers in all wards, especially in areas of deprivation where

	current services are mainly based.
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<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
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Appendices	
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1.	Overview of current grant funded play and youth activity in scope for this potential procurement
2.	Overview of other current commissioned services in scope for this potential procurement
3.	Illustrative Financial Modelling of the two recommended procurements (using current funded services)
4.	Mapping Play and Youth provision against need
5.	Equality Impact Assessment – Play and Youth

Documents In Members’ Rooms	
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1.	None
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Equality Impact Assessment	
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Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	Yes
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Privacy Impact Assessment	
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Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents	
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Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
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Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
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1.	None	
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Appendix 1 - Overview of current grant funded play and youth activity in scope for this potential procurement

Organisation	Annual grant value	Summary of current services
Southampton Community Play Association (SCPA)	£62,455	<p>SCPA receive grant funding as a major voluntary sector provider of holiday play schemes for children and young people (aged 5-12). The activities that they provide offer a significant level of community development and capacity building (their delivery model is heavily dependent upon recruiting and developing volunteers), positive engagement of children and young people and diversion of them from boredom, crime, nuisance and anti-social behaviour. As young people move beyond Age 12 they can remain involved through volunteering.</p> <p>SCPA are based centrally but operate and facilitate play scheme opportunities City-wide, but focussed upon areas of deprivation, and complementing other play provision in those areas that have additional capacity in this regard. They also arrange the City's annual playday.</p>
Southampton Community Playlink (SCP)	£24,599	<p>Southampton Community Playlink (SCP) receive grant funding as a major voluntary sector provider of toy library and associated toy loan for children and young people (aged 0-14) via parents and support to affiliated Toddler groups. The activities that they provide offer a significant level of community development and capacity building (their delivery model is heavily dependent upon recruiting and developing volunteers), positive engagement of children and young people and promoting accessible play opportunities that helps parents to provide a stimulating and active home play environment on low income, and which is rich in toys that promote interaction between parents/carers and their children, and physically active play. Stimulating play in young children helps to promote good brain development and supports the development of social skills.</p> <p>SCP are based centrally but operate and facilitate play opportunities City-wide, mainly through toy libraries facilitated alongside Children's Centres and links to Toddler groups. They also arrange the City's annual playday. Community Playlink's grant funding provides services that work towards the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To give targeted support and make scheduled visits to Community Playlink affiliated Parent and Toddler Groups. • To provide a co-ordinated Toy Library Service for children aged 0 14 years on a static and/or mobile basis.
Weston Adventure Playground	£20,115	<p>Weston Adventure Playground (WAP) receive grant funding of £20,115 to staff and run the play facility known as Weston Adventure Playground, a facility in the Weston (West Wood) area that offers supported and open access high quality, safe and fun play opportunities for local children (5-14) and families. The activities that they provide offer a significant level of community development and capacity building (their delivery model is heavily dependent upon</p>

Organisation	Annual grant value	Summary of current services
		<p>recruiting and developing volunteers), positive engagement of children and young people and promoting accessible play opportunities that helps parents to access a stimulating and active play environment on low income. Stimulating play in young children helps to promote good brain development and supports the development of social skills.</p> <p>WAP are based in the Weston area of Southampton, and serve communities (children and families) only in that part of the city. They are understood to link with other play organisations as part of city-wide initiatives. WAP's grant funding provides services that includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offering play opportunities to 5 – 14 year olds, both inside and outside the building • offering focussed activities in the school holidays • supporting families, especially young mothers • offering facilities for schools and groups • supporting Sure Start's work with under 5s <p>In addition to the outside playground equipment, WAP also provide many art and craft activities inside the building, especially during the school holidays.</p> <p>In terms of management and leadership, Weston Adventure Playground works closely with Weston Church Youth Project.</p>
Weston Church Youth Project	£28,265	<p>The Weston Church Youth Project runs clubs, trips and residential for young people in Weston, Southampton. Each week the project works with around 150 young people. It provides a safe, fun environment for young people after school or in evenings and offers social groups for all ages as well as providing access to technology and encouraging healthy living. Since registering with Localgiving.com, Weston Church Youth Project has had the opportunity for matched funding and to receive online donations with Gift Aid, as well as the benefit of being vetted by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation. Using local fundraising each year Weston Church Youth Project takes young people on summer holidays, including those who could not normally afford the reduced holiday camp rates.</p> <p>Provides support and activities for children and young people, including confidence and mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Also work closely with local schools to target children identified as needing support or activities during school holidays.</p>

Organisation	Annual grant value	Summary of current services
		In terms of management and leadership, Weston Church Youth Project works closely with Weston Adventure Playground.
Cityreach Youth Project	£25,341	<p>Cityreach Youth Project runs two dedicated youth centres across Southampton providing a range of free activities for young people: Northam (Northam 521 Club), St Marys (The Underground). These communities are all very different and the project works to break down boundaries, barriers and tensions between young people from these two Estates, and to provide a mix of activities that remains relevant to the interests and needs of a group of young people who have much diversity in their ethnic and cultural backgrounds to create a cohesive and integrated diverse community within the project.</p> <p>All group activities and sessions are free and provide the young people visiting the two centres with free hot and cold drinks and snacks.</p> <p>Residential and day trips are used to provide opportunities for young people to widen their horizons and gain new experiences. Many of the young people who we work with have never travelled outside of Southampton and have very limited access to sport or <i>leisure facilities</i>. <i>Activities include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Healthy eating & cookery sessions</i> • <i>Computer training</i> • Homework clubs • Health Advice • Drug awareness projects • Self-defense classes • Graffiti projects • Music & video projects • Mountain bike project
Saints Foundation	£14,740	<p>Provision of a Friday night activity programme for young people aged 10-19 year olds in 3 priority areas of the city and in other areas via some secondary school based provision, mainly in the West and North of the City. Provision includes a peripatetic weekly session supporting the programme with non-football activities such as, music workshops, dance, boxing and drama which complement the Friday night sessions along with activity provision during the Summer School holiday periods, a period which again historically has seen a spike in ASB. Project funding supports a Project Officer responsible for the delivery of a programme which contributes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring the target age range attend the sessions on a frequent basis. • Marketing & promotion of sessions. • Recruit, train, retain and manage delivery staff across 4 weekly venues.

Organisation	Annual grant value	Summary of current services
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging young people's participation in education, employment or training. • Reducing levels of physical disorder, such as broken windows, graffiti or litter, and ASB in areas of multi deprivation through engagement in diversionary activities. • Improved public perception of crime and ASB in the City. • Reduced risk of young men aged 16-24 being victims of crime. • Increased physical activity across the lifespan, particularly in childhood to create a healthy active blueprint for life.

Appendix 2 - Overview of other current commissioned services in scope for this potential procurement

Organisation	Annual contract value (current)	Summary of current services
Avenue Centre Project	£23,000	<p>The Avenue Centre Project is a targeted Family Support service that combines the provision of a high quality supervised play offer for under fives with a tailored package of support for their parents. The target group for this service is vulnerable families with (at least one) child under school. The City has commissioned support from the Avenue Centre project for over 20 years. It has grown from its early routes as a supported stay and play/ short term play respite for struggling parents to a more personalised offer that works with children and parents within families exposed to domestic abuse, mental health, substance misuse, learning difficulties, basic skills and support with return to work. The Project looks to build parenting confidence and competence through evidence based parenting courses, together with more tailored and practical support for families affected by issues such as no recourse to public funds. In addition to this the project provides personal support for parents in relation to practical things like getting to health and social care appointments, helping them with things like lifts, responsible childcare arrangements etc. Finally the service supports parenting and personal capacity through a range of shared basic skills offers in relation to preparing and cooking healthy food, budgeting, preparing for job interviews and using shared activities in free facilities like parks to build attachment, shared experiences, and the use of nature, fresh air and outdoor play to raise spirits and boost health physical activity levels.</p>

Appendix 3 – Illustrative Financial Modelling of the two recommended procurements (using current funded services)

The following table is illustrative. It sets out how the existing services in scope for this procurement would translate into the proposed procurement. The recommended award period is 4 years for both procurements, but the equivalent figures for Procurement 1 do not reflect the proposed full tender budget as this will also include additional CCG CAMHS Future in Mind preventative funding of £30,000 per year (£120k over the 4 year life of the contract).

Provider	Anticipated Lot where similar future such services would sit	Current Annual Equivalent Funding	Equivalent 2 year Contract Value	Equivalent 3 year Contract Value	Equivalent 4 year Contract Value	Equivalent 5 year Contract Value
Procurement 1 - 5 Lots						
Southampt on Community Play Association	1	£62,455	£124,910	£187,365	£249,820	£312,275
Southampt on Community Playlink	2	£24,599	£49,198	£73,797	£98,396	£122,995
Avenue Project	3	£23,000	£46,000	£69,000	£92,000	£115,000
Weston Church Youth Project	4	£28,265	£56,530	£84,795	£113,060	£141,325
Cityreach Youth Project	4	£25,341	£50,682	£76,023	£101,364	£126,705
Saints Foundation	5	£14,740	£29,480	£44,220	£58,960	£73,700
Total		£178,400	£356,800	£535,200	£713,600	£892,000
Procurement 2 - Single lot - Direct Award if possible						
Weston Adventure Playground	Recommen ding separate procuremen t	£20,115	£40,230	£60,345	£80,460	£100,575