

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET MEMBER**

**29 October 2015**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Adult Care**

**LEARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD BUDGET**

**ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To seek approval to the Learning Disability Partnership Board (LDPB) Budget for 2015-16 in the sum of £ 28,000.

To seek approval for a small budget to be set aside for the County Board to allocate start-up grants for social activities for people with learning disabilities; Task Force events and conferences.

**2. Information and Analysis**

The function of the County LDPB and the local LDPBs is to advocate for the views of people with learning disabilities and family carers.

The terms of reference for the County Board are as follows:

- The County Partnership Board should make sure that people with a learning disability take part in all areas of the meeting.
- They should make links with organisations and groups to get better access to activities and facilities for people with learning disabilities.
- They should work with groups and make sure people with a learning disability join in and have the same rights as everyone else.
- The County Partnership Board will share information with all organisations and their Disability Equality Schemes.
- They will help to make sure that people with multiple disabilities can use community facilities.

The Board structure is very important as we need to co-produce, engage and involve with people with learning disabilities and family carers regarding their views on current support and service changes in both health and social care.

The Boards have been supported in this role for a number of years in two main ways, fees to individuals attending the County Board and support costs for the meetings.

A fee of £250 per annum is paid to the elected learning disability representatives (self advocates) and also to family carer representatives who attend the LDPB meetings.

There are six local Boards and each Board has up to four self advocates and four family carer representatives, apart from two areas where districts are combined. These are North East and Bolsover, and High Peak and Derbyshire Dales, where there are spaces for eight self advocates and eight family carer representatives. The total cost of fees is £16,000 per annum.

Additionally each local Board and the County Board has a budget to cover room hire; and refreshments and transport costs for representatives to attend meetings. This budget also covers costs associated with one off events and county wide Task Force meetings which occur two or three times a year.

It is timely to clarify the purpose of the Board expenses. The principles on which this report is based have been agreed with the chair of the County Board.

The County Board has been made aware that the budget is being looked at and that certain changes are being put forward for agreement.

The budget for fees to representatives has been administered separately and this will continue.

Within the terms of reference for the Boards, there is scope to sponsor and pay for initiatives that develop awareness of the needs of people with learning disabilities. An example would be start-up funding for an evening social group.

It is proposed that in future any such grants should be restricted for County Board consideration. Local boards will be required to make a case to the County Board to request the making of such grants. Given the council's financial position, it is recommended that such payments should be limited to a maximum of £250 and be signed off by the Assistant Director who attends the County Board. There should be an annual limit on such funding of £2,000 in total.

The grants should:

- Be for the benefit of people with learning disabilities
- Have local or countywide benefit
- Have measurable outcomes which should be reported to the Board
- Be a one off payment

- Not be paid to an existing organisation
- Only be made if the funding is not available from any other source

### **3. Financial Considerations**

The budget proposal is set out below

Self Advocate and Elected carer fees (8 per Derbyshire district) This includes fee for independent chair of County Board	£16,250
County Board budget for refreshments, transport, Task Force one off events and start up grants (this element to be a maximum of £2,000 per year)	£5,140
Local Boards budget for travel and other expenses (based on spend in 2014-15)	£6,610
Total	£28,000

This can be met from the Learning Disabilities Development Fund budget.

### **Human Resources Considerations**

There are no human resource considerations.

### **4. Legal Considerations**

The proposal is that the Council make a grant payment for the specific purposes as set out in this report. The grant arrangement rather than a contract following procurement means that the Council will have less ability to performance manage the recipients of the grant. Recipients of the grant are not contractually obliged to deliver the outcomes although the Council would seek to recover the grant in appropriate circumstances were there to be significant non-performance. However, given the circumstances of the allocation of the grants to people with Learning Disabilities and Carers, it is submitted that the method of financial delivery to these stakeholders is appropriate.

### **5. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: Legal and Human Rights, equality of opportunity, health, environmental, transport, property and crime and disorder considerations.

### **6. Background Papers**

Cabinet Member report 5<sup>th</sup> August 2015 – Grant funding to address rural isolation in High Peak and Dales.

## **7. Key Decision**

No

## **8. Is it necessary to waive the call-in period?**

No

## **9. Officer's Recommendation**

That Cabinet Member approves the Learning Disability Partnership Board Budget (LDPB) for 2015-16 in the sum of £28,000.

That Cabinet Member approves a small budget to be set aside for the County Board to allocate start-up grants up to a maximum of £250 per grant for social activities for people with learning disabilities. The total sum to be allocated per year to be no more than £2,000.

**Joy Hollister**  
**Strategic Director – Adult Care**