

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

7 June 2018

Report of the Director of Public Health

Derbyshire School Holiday Food Programme

1. Purpose of the report:

To seek approval from Cabinet Member to part fund the FareShare annual subscription fee from July 2018 to June 2019, to supply healthy, nutritious food to 19 Derbyshire School Holiday Food Projects, utilising £5,800 of the Public Health budget.

2. Information and analysis:

The Derbyshire School Holiday Food Programme is a very successful countywide programme addressing national concerns on the extent and causes of hunger amongst children during school holiday periods.

In summer 2016 Feeding Derbyshire established 19 projects in local communities experiencing high multiple deprivation. Working in partnership with schools, faith communities, children's centres, Big Local grant-funded communities and district and borough councils, with an aim to ensure children benefit from nutritious food and enrichment activities during school holiday periods throughout the year.

Since 2016 the programme has gone from strength to strength and subsequently an additional 12 projects have been established - these are funded by FareShare, bringing the total number of projects in Derbyshire to 31.

FareShare is a UK charity ensuring surplus food reaches vulnerable groups by redistributing good food to frontline services. Currently Public Health at Derbyshire County Council fund the annual subscription fee to FareShare of £11,818 to supply 19 projects with healthy, nutritious, in-date food. Each project (made up of multiple partners and volunteers) in turn make up the food to provide children with a range of breakfasts, packed lunches, snacks and drinks, alongside activities ranging from arts and crafts, family reading (DCC Library Services), games and sports (district and borough councils), family cook and eat workshops, Mad Science and dance.

National evidence shows that:

- In the UK over one in four children are living in poverty once housing costs have been deducted from their income. This is reflected in the rates seen in Derbyshire.
- Children who regularly miss out on meals and arrive at school hungry and thirsty are at a significant disadvantage, lacking concentration and the ability to learn.
- The loss of free school meals during the holiday costs a family £30-40 per week.

The Derbyshire School Holiday Food Programme Evaluation Report summer 2017 shows that:

- 31 projects were established across the eight district and borough areas.
- 8,324 meals were provided to children and young people during the six week holidays (this ranged from breakfasts, packed lunches and snacks and drinks).
- A total of 3,339 adults (parents and carers) attended.
- FareShare supplied the equivalent food to provide 11,940 meals (this included food for family cook and eat workshops).
- 182 volunteers gave their time to support the projects. A number of the volunteers also accessed training, including *Let's Get Cooking in the Holidays* (Childrens Food Trust) and Level 2 Food Safety & Hygiene for Catering.
- Over 160 partners worked collaboratively to deliver a range of activities and prepare food.
- Food was provided in venues including schools, children's centres, faith communities, youth and community centres, green spaces, leisure centres.
- Outdoor and indoor activities ranged from arts and crafts, family reading, climbing wall, magician, games and sports, den building, mask and puppet making, cook and eat workshops, mad science, dance, making hanging baskets and flower troughs.

3. Social Value considerations:

Derbyshire School Holiday Food Programme as part of the wider Feeding Derbyshire initiative is ensuring the sustainability of local charities. The Public Health grant funding will afford a lead-in time for Rural Action Derbyshire and FareShare to secure future funds to manage, develop and sustain the School Holiday Food Programme over subsequent years.

Feeding Derbyshire and FareShare is supporting local volunteers to gain the skills and personal development opportunities required to transition into paid employment.

4. Financial considerations:

A proportion of the £11,818 annual subscription fee has already been secured (£6,018). The additional amount being requested is £5,800 which can has been identified from the Public Health budget.

5. Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

6. Background papers:

Cabco Report 30 November 2017 Feeding Derbyshire Sustainability Plan

7. Key Decision:

No

8. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

9. Officer's Recommendation:

That the Cabinet Member, Health and Communities, approves the proposed award of £5,800 from the Public Health budget to FareShare.

Dean Wallace
Director of Public Health