

Report of: Deputy Director, Integrated Commissioning

Report to: Director of Adults and Health

Date: 19th February 2020

Subject: Dementia-Friendly Leeds: authority to enter into a competitive grant-funding process

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary

1. Main issues

- Leeds City Council committed to working to become a dementia-friendly community in 2012, and this was affirmed at the first meeting of the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board in May 2013¹.
- To be recognised as a dementia-friendly community, the Alzheimers Society and British Standards Institute set 'Foundation Criteria'². These include: a local structure; a strong voice for people living with dementia; an action plan; increasing 'reach' and awareness. This requires dedicated capacity to co-ordinate work with businesses, community groups, and the statutory sector.
- Leeds Older People's Forum have provided this co-ordination role since January 2014, funded by a series of one-off grants. This report proposes to set this on a secure footing with longer-term funding.
- Adults and Health Directorate Leadership Team agreed in principle in February 2019 to "sustaining the part-time co-ordinator role ... The cost of this is £31.6K pa for a 28 hours per week post." DLT further agreed that the grant funding be subject to a competitive process. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to proceed with a competitive grant-funding process for a 3-year grant, with option to extend by 2 years, at a cost (2020-21 value) of £31.6K per annum.

¹ <https://news.leeds.gov.uk/dementia-strategy-launched-in-leeds/>

² www.alzheimers.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-06/DFC%20Foundation%20criteria_Fs%20Albert_4.pdf

2. Best Council Plan Implications (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

- The following priorities are particularly relevant from the Best Council Plan:
 - a. *reducing health inequalities and supporting active lifestyles;*
 - b. *improving the city's transport and digital infrastructure and tackling climate change risks;*
 - c. *making Leeds the best city to grow old in;*
 - d. *improving the quality of lives and growing the economy through cultural and creative activities;*
 - e. *keeping people safe from harm and promoting community respect and resilience.*

Further detail is given below ('Background Information').

3. Resource Implications

- The proposed grant-funding is for £31.6K pa. for three years, with an option to extend for a further two years. Potentially the funding totals £158K over five years (excluding any annual uplifts).
- Leeds Older People's Forum has recruited volunteers to support the project, with eg. admin, social media and running 'Dementia Friends' awareness sessions; thereby adding value to the NHS / Council funding over the past 6 years.
- It is proposed that this activity is best suited to a grant-funding relationship, because:
 - a. it is not a direct service provision;
 - b. the recipient of the funding will have flexibility and required to co-design the community campaign and activity with people and carers living with dementia and local organisations.
 - c. the recipient will be required to offer added value eg. volunteering and contributions in kind from supporting organisations.

Recommendations

- a) That the Council enters into a competitive grant-funding process to identify the local third sector organisation that can offer the best outcomes and value for money for dementia-friendly Leeds.
- b) The value of the grant to be £31.6K pa. (2020-21 value) for three years, plus an option for a further two years.
- c) The Commissioning Programme Lead, Dementia, to lead the process for the new grant to commence on 1st May 2020.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek authority to enter into a grant-funding process to identify an organisation to support and co-ordinate the further development of dementia-friendly Leeds.

2. Background information

2.1 The membership of the Leeds Dementia Action Alliance (ie. signed up to take dementia-friendly actions) stands at 188 organisations³. The national criteria for dementia-friendly communities requires regular follow-up to ensure organisations are sustaining their efforts. The dementia friendly window-stickers given to member now include a printed two-year period.

2.2 The benefits of dementia-friendly Leeds can be described under the following priorities from the 'best Council' plan:

- *reducing health inequalities and supporting active lifestyles;*

People and carers living with dementia are at risk of social isolation, and dementia as a condition is best managed with meaningful activity and involvement to sustain a sense of purpose and belonging.

- *improving the city's transport and digital infrastructure and tackling climate change risks;*

People living with dementia in Leeds have identified transport as the top priority for dementia-friendly action.

- *making Leeds the best city to grow old in;*

Growing older is the primary risk factor for developing dementia; being dementia-friendly includes the 1 in 14 older people who live with dementia, whilst meeting needs which also occur in other age-related conditions such as sensory impairment. Leeds Older People's Forum have hosted the dementia-friendly Leeds post within their 'Friendly Communities' project to co-ordinate with age-friendly Leeds.

- *improving the quality of lives and growing the economy through cultural and creative activities;*

Cultural and creative initiatives have contributed hugely to the success of dementia-friendly Leeds. The Council's peer support service for people living with dementia is at the heart of a 'dementia cultural partnership, with regular activities and one-off projects hosted at Leeds Playhouse, Leeds City Library & Leeds City Museum. The Playhouse was the first theatre in the country to put on dementia-friendly theatre performances and won 'Best Dementia Friendly Project' at the Alzheimers Society awards in 2015; followed by another in 2018 for 'Outstanding Arts and Creativity in Dementia Care' for the 'every Third Minute' Festival. Opera North put on a successful dementia-friendly performance of 'La Bohème' in October 2019. Yorkshire Cricket, Leeds United FC and Leeds Rugby all host monthly sporting reminiscence activities.

Working carers can benefit from dementia-friendly approaches by local businesses. It is estimated that one-third of carers of people with dementia are economically active⁴, which means Leeds has c. 2,500 carers of people with dementia who combine unpaid caring with paid work.

- *keeping people safe from harm and promoting community respect and resilience;*

People with dementia are particularly vulnerable to exploitation and this is exacerbated by loneliness and isolation. There are many local community contributions to Dementia-Friendly Leeds, including registered D-F communities at Horsforth and Morley. Approx. 25 of our 50 Memory Cafes are offered by

³ www.dementiaaction.org.uk/leeds

⁴ www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/OHE-report-Full.pdf

volunteers and businesses taking dementia-friendly approaches, at no cost to social care commissioners. It helps reduce the stigma, so dementia becomes something that is easier to talk about in those communities.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 Leeds City Council committed to working to become a dementia-friendly community in 2012, and this was affirmed at the first meeting of the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board in May 2013⁵.
- 3.2 To be recognised as a dementia-friendly community, the Alzheimers Society and British Standards Institute set 'Foundation Criteria'⁶. These include: a local structure; a strong voice for people living with dementia; an action plan; increasing 'reach' and awareness. This requires dedicated capacity to co-ordinate work with businesses, community groups, and the statutory sector.
- 3.3 Since January 2014, Leeds Older People's Forum have received successive non-recurrent grants to develop and co-ordinate dementia-friendly Leeds. These grants have come from both local authority and NHS clinical commissioning budgets.
- 3.4 Adults and Health Directorate Leadership Team agreed in principle in February 2019 to "sustaining the part-time co-ordinator role ... The cost of this is £31.6K pa for a 28 hours per week post." DLT further agreed that the grant funding be subject to a competitive process. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to proceed with a competitive grant-funding process for a 3-year grant, with option to extend by 2 years, at a cost (2020-21 value) of £31.6K per annum.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 Adults and Health Directorate Leadership Team supported the proposal in principle on 27th Feb 2019.
- 4.1.2 Finance colleagues have indicated that budget is available for this proposal.
- 4.1.3 The 'Doing Good Leeds' portal, provided by Voluntary Action Leeds, will be used to advertise and invite expressions of interest from the Third Sector organisations. There will also be specific contact with organisations likely to be interested. This is to ensure that the opportunity to bid is promoted fairly and transparently.
- 4.1.4 Thereafter, YORtender will be used to publish the competitive grant process, and manage the process; but it will be limited to the organisations which expressed an interest in response to the above.
- 4.1.5 Leeds Older People's Forum have engaged with people living with dementia to identify the priorities for the current action plan: transport, shops and businesses, and arts & recreation.
- 4.1.6 Consultation on the draft Leeds dementia strategy has supported the further development of dementia-friendly Leeds.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

⁵ <https://news.leeds.gov.uk/dementia-strategy-launched-in-leeds/>

⁶ www.alzheimers.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-06/DFC%20Foundation%20criteria_Fs%20Albert_4.pdf

- 4.2.1 There is a great deal of diversity in people living with dementia, and approaches to supporting must be both person-centred, and well-informed by an understanding of diverse needs. It is proposed that dementia-friendly developments led by community organisations is a positive approach contributing to accessibility and inclusion.
- 4.2.2 An Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Impact Assessment has been completed for this project. This tool indicates that a full assessment is not required as the recommendations of the report will not impact negatively on service users, staff or stakeholders. The assessment will be submitted alongside the report for the Delegated Decision Panel.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

- 4.3.1 The 'Background Information' above describes the links to the best Council Plan.
- 4.3.2 The approach is consistent with the 'left shift' and community asset-based approaches described in the Leeds Health and Care Plan.
- 4.3.3 Dementia-Friendly Leeds is the first theme in the refreshed dementia strategy (currently in draft).

Climate Emergency

- 4.3.4 People living with dementia are among those who benefit from inclusive public transport.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

- 4.4.1 The recurrent spend required for this grant-funding process has been provided for within the Strategic Commissioning budget.
- 4.4.2 Dementia-friendly approaches support people to live well and avoid statutory services. Many of the Memory Cafes and creative activities referenced above are at no or very low cost to the Council.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

- 4.5.1 As the overall value of this decision exceeds £100,000 and is less than £500,000, this decision is a Significant Operational Decision and is not subject to 'call in'. A published record of the decision would ensure transparency and accountability, which is important for the fairness of a grant-funding opportunity.
- 4.5.2 Future decisions arising from this report, for example the decision to award the grant agreement, will be treated as a consequence of this decision and will therefore be a significant operational decision and will not be subject to call in.
- 4.5.3 There are no grounds for keeping the contents of this report confidential under the Access to Information Rules.
- 4.5.4 If a different organisation (to LOPF) is identified to receive the grant, depending on the circumstances, TUPE may apply to protect employment rights if a staff member is employed at Leeds Older People's Forum to work on dementia-friendly Leeds.
- 4.5.5 Following a decision to enter into a grant-funding process, further consideration would be given to managing any uncertainty for prospective bidders related to

TUPE. It would ultimately be the responsibility of the new recipient of funding to identify and meet legal obligations.

- 4.5.6 By entering into a grant agreement with organisations the Council will have no contractual control over enforcement of terms. The only sanction available with grant payments is for the Council to claw-back grant monies paid. However, this is balanced by the opportunity for creative approaches to be developed making use of the flexibility of the grant; and for added value to be obtained.
- 4.5.7 There is a risk of challenge that a grant payment is not a grant. This is assessed as a very low risk, because the co-ordination of the campaign does not offer a significant commercial opportunity to a for-profit organisation.

4.6 Risk management

- 4.6.1 A long-term funding arrangement would avoid the risks of disruption / discontinuity of the campaign.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Dementia-friendly Leeds offers an asset-based, inclusive and value for money approach to support people with dementia, families and carers to live well with the condition.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 That the Council enters into a competitive grant-funding process to identify the local third sector organisation that can offer the best outcomes and value for money for dementia-friendly Leeds.
- 6.2 The value of the grant to be £31.6K pa. (2020-21 value) for three years, plus an option for a further two years.
- 6.3 The Commissioning Programme Lead, Dementia, to lead the process for the new grant to commence on 1st May 2020.

7. Background documents⁷

- 7.1 NONE

⁷ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.