

## Performance and Resources Committee Meeting

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 16 March 2022
Paper Title	Action for Children Project
Agenda Item	14
Paper Number	PRC4-I
Responsible Officer	Martin Boyle, Executive Director
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Decision

### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. This report proposes an expansion of the Action for Children Project.

### 2. Recommendations

2.1. The Committee is asked to:

- **Comment** on the proposal to expand the Action for Children Project, and
- Subject to approval, make a **recommendation** to the Board to invest £100,000 (excluding VAT) per annum over the 3-year project.

### **3. Report**

- 3.1.** The regional project with Action for Children project commenced in August 2019, for an initial period of 3 years. The mentoring programme provides community, and college, based support to learners who have experience of care. This included light touch/early help support and information. Intensive support, and future destination support, are also available to help learners into employment.
- 3.2.** The service has operated successfully over recent years and has been a huge benefit to this group of learners who have faced significant challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 3.3.** During the last year, Action for Children have engaged with the Robertson Trust, with the aim of securing funding to expand the project. As a result, Action for Children have secured additional national funding of almost £150,000 per annum for a 3-year period.
- 3.4.** The proposed investment from the Glasgow college region is £100,000 (excluding VAT)<sup>1</sup>, which will leverage additional externally funding of £133,494 in year one. This enables a total of 6.5 FTE staff to be engaged to provide services for care experienced learners in the Glasgow college region.
- 3.5.** Over the 3-year period, the total investment proposed by the Glasgow college is £300,000 to be matched by additional external funding of £414,406.

### **4. Risk and Compliance Analysis**

- 4.1.** This report helps to address the risk that ‘Fewer learners achieve positive outcomes’ (Risk 007).
- 4.2.** There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### **5. Financial and Resource Analysis**

- 5.1.** The financial implications associated with the project proposal are set out in the body of the report. The proposed regional contribution would secure additional services and matched funding.

### **6. Equalities Implications**

- 6.1.** The proposed expansion of this project would provide support to a group of students who face significant challenges in terms of accessing education.

### **7. Learner Implications**

- 7.1.** The proposed expansion of this project would provide support to a number of students to enable them to complete their studies within the Glasgow college region.

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<sup>1</sup> The situation regarding VAT is still to be clarified. If VAT is added, to the Glasgow college contribution, it will increase the amount payable by 20%. As GCRB is not registered for VAT, and cannot recover input tax, this would result in an additional cost.