

## PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISIONS



**Please refer to Guidance Notes overleaf**

Forward Plan Ref. No.	2017 274 April MYMCA and Elim 2017 to 2018	Date of decision: 19 April 2017
Name of Portfolio Holder	Cllr Nigel Woolcombe-Adams	
Name of Officer	Jai Vick	
Details of Decision	<p>To award grant funding of £69,163.50p jointly to Mendip YMCA and Elim Connect to provide twelve months of housing related support to adults with complex needs within the Mendip district area. Mendip YMCA will be the lead agency to which the grant will be funded.</p> <p>The project is aimed at clients who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness and are over the age of 25 years (under 25's are catered for within the Pathway to Independence services commissioned by Somerset County council and the 5 district councils) and have a local connection to the Mendip area.</p> <p>The work will be funded from a grant pool held by Mendip on behalf of the Positive Lives Strategic Board made up of the district and county councils and criminal justice partners. The grant pool is currently made up of funds received from two external sources, the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Somerset County Council.</p> <p>The allocation of grants has been agreed by the redesign group but, as the holder of the funds for the group, Mendip District Council is being asked to allocate grants on behalf of the group. As such the money being granted is not coming from Mendip District Council revenue.</p> <p>Mendip YMCA and Elim Connect have a track record of partnership working to support vulnerable people. They are uniquely able to bring to the table the existing provision of a direct access hostel in the Mendip district area, move on support, a successful Mendip based tenant accreditation scheme and experience of providing floating support for rough sleepers within Mendip who, due to the rural nature of the Mendip area, have needs that are different from the normal rough sleeper.</p> <p>The funding being awarded is to provide initial triage assessment to determine which service will be most appropriate, or whether more significant intervention is required, and ensure the person is placed on an appropriate pathway. They will also support clients within a supported housing unit and aid them to move on with the support and assistance of a private rental sector worker and resettlement worker utilising their existing Move-on/DGS and Tenant Accreditation Workers to get clients into independent or more suitable accommodation subject to the ongoing support needed. The funding provided is insufficient to provide a</p>	

	<p>comprehensive support package alone but when aligned with existing support elements provided by Elim and MYMCA it provides adults with complex needs with a rounded support service that could not be provided via other means.</p> <p><b>Scheme success in 2016/17</b>                  The service described was piloted during 2016/17. The scheme was monitored by the Positive Lives Board reports include fully occupancy of Spencer House low level supported housing project since November 2016, currently runs a waiting list for applicants waiting to secure a room, clients moving on from the project include move on into Housing association and private rental accommodation. The unit has been full to capacity with no voids since November 2016. All tenants complete a move in survey along with a 3 months feedback form and also exit survey – results of these are all positive.</p> <p>Further details are found in “reasons for decision” and appendix 1 copy of bid.</p> <p>This means that the grant will be given exemption under the Council Constitution. Section 22 for Procurement, Clauses 6.3 H and I which cover</p> <p>H “Social care contracts, being the provision of personal social services to individual clients; or individual contracts for temporary accommodation for the homeless; Standardisation of supplies or equipment is determined to be important and justified which renders further competition impractical”.</p> <p>I “The proposed contract related to specialised services or technical equipment where the requested User Department has made a qualitative judgement that the selected supplier is suited to carry out the work or furnish the equipment. The User Department must show there is no effective or genuine competition”</p>
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Details of consultation carried out: Tick		
√	Relevant Corporate Manager (please specify) Tracy Aarons	Date: 18 April 2017
√	Any other Portfolio Holder whose area of responsibility is affected (please specify) Nigel Woolcombe-Adams	Date:
√	Other (e.g. Ward Members) Group Manager Housing Services – Jai Vick	Date: 18 April 2017

Reasons for Decision	Adults with complex needs struggle to maintain safe, secure and stable housing, a vital component if they are to have a chance to resolve their wider needs. The Mendip area has a number of different support packages provided by the two providers MYMCA and Elim Connect but this additional resourcing from the Positive Lives Group provides an opportunity to use levered in funds to build out the current support to provide an effective pathway for this cohort that knits the existing services and provides support where there are currently gaps.
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Any alternative options considered and rejected	<p>1. Tendering This would be difficult since there are no other agencies in Mendip who provide the existing services that will be integrated into this funding stream. By using these suppliers the council is in effect piggybacking on their existing services and gaining additional value for money.</p> <p>2. Using OGC framework. The contractors on this have been reviewed and there is no-one with the required skill/experience/services in place to carry out the work required.</p>
Financial and personnel implications	Funding is being made available from the Positive Lives funding stream – a grant pool held by Mendip DC on behalf of the Complex Adults Redesign Group (now renamed Positive Lives) made up of the 5 district councils, County Council and Criminal Justice partners. The Positive Lives strategic board have initially assessed the bid seen at Appendix 1 and support the award of this grant to Mendip YMCA – a decision which was made at their meeting of 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2017.
Any relevant personal Interest under the Code of Conduct	None
Reports and Background papers relevant to the decision	See appendix 1 – bid application made by Mendip YMCA to he Positive Lives Strategic Board. This bid was considered by the Positive Lives Strategic Board on 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2017. Members of the board agreed in principle to fund the project at a total cost of £69,164.00p for the financial year 2017-18. However, the local authority commissioning the project, in this case Mendip must ensure the project is appropriately procured hence the reason for this portfolio holder decision.
Date e-mailed to Members incl Scrutiny Board Chair	<b>Wednesday, 19 April 2017</b>
Date of Publication of Notice	<b>Wednesday, 19 April 2017</b>
Date Decision comes into force (*see below)	<b>Thursday, 27 April 2017</b>
* <b>Please Note:</b> The decision detailed above will come into force, and may be implemented, 5 working days after Publication unless subject to call-in by the Scrutiny Board.	
<b>Signature of Portfolio Holder</b>	

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Appendix 1

Bid application for positive lives funding from Mendip YMCA as lead agency on behalf of Mendip YMCA and Elim Connect Centre.

<p><b>Organisation Name: Elim Connect Centre &amp; YMCA Mendip</b></p>	<p>Assessors comment</p>
<p><b>Lead Contact name and address:</b>                  ELIM - Stephen Fowler                  Mendip YMCA – Fern Pearce and Carol Plenty, The Old Glasshouse, South Street, Wells BA5 1SL</p>	
<p><b>Description of current areas of delivery under Positive Lives Programme:</b></p> <p><b>ELIM</b></p> <p>Initial Triage Assessment – To be carried out by Elim Individual assessment via the triage process will determine which service will be most appropriate or whether more significant intervention is required which does not fall within the remit of the 12 month pilot.</p> <p>14hrs part time staff member to complement existing team with triage assessments for identification of appropriate entry point into relevant service and referral to appropriate scheme. Placement into the service will be a combined decision between Elim and MYMCA.</p> <p><b>YMCA Mendip</b></p> <p><b>Adult EHFA</b>                  Emergency Host Family Accommodation for up to 7 nights in a family home on a bed and breakfast basis. Clients will have been thoroughly risk assessed and deemed appropriate for this accommodation. Support will be given to look at all options and a planned move on within the Adult Services.</p> <p><b>Spencer House</b>                  An 8 bed supported housing project for complex needs adults with low to medium housing support needs. Clients receive a support package to assist them in moving on into independent living. Expectation of time in project is up to 6 months maximum on a licence agreement with monthly assessments of individual need and progression. Support is based on Mendip YMCA’s Move On Move Out process which is an education development programme including: Housing, Mental and Emotional Wellbeing, Social Activities &amp; Relationships, Motivation &amp; Taking Responsibility, Physical Health &amp; Self Care,</p>	

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<p>Social Activities &amp; Relationships, Education, Training, Work and Meaningful Activity, Substance Use.</p> <p>Clients with specialist support needs are supported by specialist agencies, who work with YMCA Mendip in an inclusive partnership approach.</p>	
<p>Describe the outcomes that have been achieved from the utilisation of the 2016/17 grant:</p> <p><b>Integrated approach</b>          The Outreach/Triage service works best as part of an integrated approach with other Elim services including The Dairy House (direct access community) and day services. As part of this we have worked to develop inter related services with YMCA Mendip specifically around triage and move on the Spencer House and elsewhere.</p> <p><b>Adult EHFA</b></p> <p>Eight families throughout the Mendip area have been recruited to host over 25s in an emergency. Adult EHFA Worker has been recruited (10hr post). 1 client accessed Adult EHFA and was then successfully housed at Spencer House since went live early 2017.</p> <p><b>Spencer House</b></p> <p>Currently at full capacity (since October 2016) and have a waiting list, we have taken referrals from Dairy House, direct from Mendip District Council and via YMCA Mendip PRS worker.</p> <p>There have been six positive move ons to date via the use of Tenancy Accreditation Scheme offered by YMCA Mendip. These have included those housed via Homefinder Somerset and in the private rented sector. These clients continue to receive support from YMCA Mendip for 6 months.</p> <p>We have worked in partnership with ELIM to ensure that residents are offered positive activities such as volunteering to help them gain skills and develop their employability.</p>	
<p>Explain how you have met the Positive Lives grant principles:</p> <p><b>ELIM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation has been improved with partnership with YMCA Mendip and the other agencies</li> </ul>	

represented on the Positive Lives Working Group which we attend. Quarterly Reports have been provided to the Board

- The service has been targeted at medium to high risk people but the move on has only been effective in the medium to lower risk group
- New ideas and approaches have been included and at operational level the teams work well. The Connect Centre day services has been the hub for triage and meetings
- With YMCA Mendip we have improved our connection with Housing providers and new move options have been used
- Co designing individual care plans has been key
- Clients have been enabled and proactively involved in solutions
- There is more flexibility in the service with more move on options. Reconnection has been a priority too
- Peer support has been more of a challenge but in the last few months clients have been working together more in problem solving
- Elim Volunteer team has grown and we have teams on cline transport, mentoring, running activity groups. Clients have also volunteered in numerous Elim initiatives

### **YMCA Mendip**

- YMCA Mendip attend and contribute to the Positive Lives Board Meetings and will now attend the Operational Board
- We have continued to have positive relationships with all of our partner agencies including ELIM, Mendip District Council (Housing Options and Housing Benefit), Aster and many other statutory and community organisations throughout Mendip.
- We provide tailored support to suit the needs of the individuals and ensure that a holistic approach is applied to all clients to meet assessed needs
- Provision and availability of eight host families for Adult EHFA throughout Mendip is now available
- Successful progression through the pathway from Adult EHFA to Spencer House
- Six successful move ons to independent accommodation from Spencer House
- We completed in service and exit interviews with the residents to evaluate their thoughts and feelings on the service and to look for any ways to improve or develop the service to ensure that it is the most effective it can be
- We offer support to those who have moved on from Spencer House for six month and this is tailored to

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<p>the needs of the individual and it is our intention to be available for information and guidance after that period if required. We are also keen to ensure that we work to encourage clients to take up opportunities within their community to build resilience and to reduce dependency on YMCA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YMCA Mendip has a robust volunteer network managed by a Volunteer Coordinator with over 70 active volunteers who are recruited, DBS checked, inducted and trained. We are currently working to develop their use more at Spencer House and to encourage volunteering out of the project.</li> <li>• We have forged links with local food businesses to ensure that food is not wasted, residents benefit and develops further links with the local community.</li> </ul>	
<p>Please detail your proposals for 2017/18:</p> <p><b>ELIM</b> Initial Triage Assessment – To be carried out by Elim Individual assessment via the triage process will determine which service will be most appropriate or whether more significant intervention is required which does not fall within the remit of the 12 month pilot.</p> <p>14hrs Part time staff member to complement existing team with triage assessments for identification of appropriate entry point into relevant service and referral to appropriate scheme. Placement into the service will be a combined decision between Elim and MYMCA.</p> <p><b>£11,110 (includes an inflationary increase plus addition travel costs)</b></p> <p><b>Complex Adults Redesign Funding YMCA Mendip</b></p> <p>Those ready to move from the direct access to accommodation Low/Medium support – tenancy will be on a Licence basis with breakfast being provided. Delivered by Mendip YMCA.</p> <p>Accommodation and Housing Management Staffing and delivery costs. <b>Funded through Housing benefit and Personal Contribution.</b></p> <p><b>Spencer House Adult Support/Resettlement Worker – Carried out by MYMCA</b> Supporting them with the supported housing unit and aiding them to more on with the support and assistance of</p>	

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the PRS, Move-on/DGS and Tenant Accreditation Worker into independent or more suitable accommodation subject to support needed.

**Staff Salary including on costs and relief provision to cover annual leave £27569**

### **PRS – part funded**

Private Sector Rental Support – Carried out by MYMCA Private Rental Sector Worker to enable movement of clients into private sector housing where social housing is not accessible.

**As part of this application Staff Salary including on costs and delivery costs £20818.50 (Balance funded separately by MDC)**

**Adult EHFA worker** 10hrs Part time staff member to compliment existing team assist with EHFA recruitment and client placement in private rented sector.

**Staff Salary including on costs and relief provision to cover annual leave £9666**

**The services within the Positives Programme delivered by YMCA Mendip are also supported by Tenant Accreditation Scheme Funded separately by MDC and Move-On & Deposit Guarantee Scheme Funded separately by MDC**