

3rd Sector Investment Fund Service Specification

Children, Young People and Families

Introduction.

This service specification for the Children, Young People and Families allocation of the LBHF Investment Fund has been developed from an analysis of:

- The LBHF Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2008-11
- The five CYPP Action Plans
- The eight Children's Services 2008/9 departmental priorities and related outcomes
- Two consultation workshops with local third sector groups (May and June 2009)
- Findings and recommendations from the 'Children's Third Sector Contribution Project' – research was undertaken in April / May 2009 amongst the 20 currently funded Children's Investment Fund projects, plus interviews with key LBHF and third sector personnel (final report published August 2009)

Hammersmith & Fulham's vision for children, young people and families

The Council's vision for children, young people and families is set out in the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2008-11. The CYPP was developed by Hammersmith & Fulham Children's Services, in cooperation with the Primary Care Trust, local hospital trusts, the police, and local 3rd sector groups. Children and young people, their parents and carers, and those who work with them, were also consulted during the development of the CYPP 2008-11. The same groups will be involved in the annual review of the Plan.

The CYPP outlines out how local agencies will work together to develop a complementary cluster of services that help young people achieve the five outcomes from the government's Every Child Matters green paper. The five outcomes are that children:

- Stay safe
- Be healthy
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well-being

Local Action Plans

Five local Action Plans addressing each of the ECM outcomes were developed to sit alongside the CYPP; these focus on statutory targets with little direct reference to 3rd sector provision, although there is widespread acknowledgement that the sector contributes greatly to the achievement of statutory objectives, especially at the preventative end.

Outcomes for the Children's Investment Fund 2010-2014

The 23 numbered outcomes listed in the five ECM outcome boxes below are derived from the summarised CYPF outcomes, and an analysis of the key service areas:

- a) where the third sector is currently delivering in LBHF, and
- b) where they could realistically be encouraged to expand delivery in LBHF.

The identified outcomes are broadly soft outcomes which cover a wide range of Tier 1 and 2 interventions. However the outcomes are flexible enough to be applied to complex / high needs interventions where local third sector organisations are already delivering, or are seeking to deliver, such services.

We expect applications to specify clearly whether the project will deliver interventions which are:

- Preventative in nature
- Providing early intervention services
- Targeted at a high need group, or
- A combination of the above

Creating a Borough of Opportunity by delivering high quality, value for money public services.

The wording of the listed outcomes does not specify particular client or vulnerability groups at whom services should be targeted. This is because LBHF has a huge range of third sector organisations, delivering specialised services to numerous community and need groups. An attempt to name particular need groups within the outcomes framework would result in a long, complex list of highly specialised outcomes.

Although the aim has been to establish an overall inclusive approach, the delivery of high-quality services to the most vulnerable remains a fundamental building block necessary to achieve the Borough of Opportunity vision, and it is the purpose of the Investment Fund to support this aim. Such vulnerable groups at whom the Children, Young People and Families Specification is targeted include:

- Children, young people and families living in geographical areas of high need within the borough (information indicating Income Deprivation Affecting Children is available within the Children and Young People's Plan on www.lbhf.gov.uk)
- Families on low incomes
- Disabled children and young people up to the age of 25 years and their families
- BMER groups including Eastern European communities
- Single parent families

It is our expectation that organisations will clearly describe in their applications:

- which groups their proposed services are targeted at
- which geographical ward(s) the beneficiaries will be residents of
- what benefits will be realised through the service being funded and
- how these benefits will be measured and evaluated

Delivering services to children and young people across all age groups.

We expect applications to clearly state the age group, or combination of age groups, that projects will be delivering to, in order that we can commission a fair distribution of services across all age groups. The age categories that should be used are:

- 0-5 year olds (and their families)
- 5-13 year olds (and their families)
- 13 – 19 year olds (and their families) – up to aged 25 years if young person is disabled

All applicants must show

- **an understanding of and commitment to the local safeguarding children agenda**
- **a strong commitment to partnership working which means participating in LBHF forums, training and networking events such as the Children's Third Sector Network, the Family Information Service directory and the Children's Workforce Development agenda**
- **a commitment to working in partnership in contributing to council statutory obligation**

The outcomes framework

| | Outcomes sought |
|-------------------|---|
| Be healthy | 1. Children, young people and families are leading healthier lifestyles (including nutrition, healthy eating, physical activity, exercise etc) |
| | 2. Children and young people have increased self-confidence and positive self-esteem |
| | 3. Children and young people are more resilient and able to deal with challenging life events |
| | 4. Children and young people are accessing appropriate health-related advice and information |
| | 5. Children, young people and families are accessing specialist health services via signposting, referral and advocacy |

| | Outcomes sought |
|------------------|---|
| Stay safe | 6. Families are accessing regular community based support at an early stage of need |
| | 7. Families have increased protective factors. |
| | 8. Parents are more confident in their parenting skills |
| | 9. Children are knowledgeable about their environment and how to stay safe / feel safer |
| | 10. Parents regularly access services which promote positive parenting |

| | Outcomes sought |
|--------------------------|--|
| Enjoy and achieve | 11. Children and young people attend school regularly and enjoy learning. |
| | 12. Children and young people benefit from taking part in high quality accessible activities in a safe environment during evenings, weekends and school holidays |
| | 13. 0-5 year olds are accessing high quality early years provision |
| | 14. Parents play an active role in supporting their child's learning and development |
| | 15. Children, young people and families are supported during all periods of school / college transition (applies to disabled young people up to the age of 25) |

| | Outcomes sought |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Make a positive contribution | 16. Children and young people influence local decisions |
| | 17. Children and young people contribute to service planning |
| | 18. Children and young people are supported to stay out of trouble, by maintaining and developing positive life choices. |
| | 19. Young people benefit from participating in volunteering programmes |
| | 20. Children and young people have positive relationships with others and skills to build on them. |

| Priority 5 | Outcomes sought |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Achieve economic well-being | 21. Young people are equipped with skills and experiences to reach their full potential |
| | 22. Young people are supported to access Education, Employment and Training |
| | 23. Families are supported to make the most of opportunities and make informed choices |