



REPORT TO: Conwy and Denbighshire Public Services Board

DATE: 23 March 2022

LEAD OFFICER & ORGANISATION: Amanda Jones, Corporate Improvement & Development Manager, Conwy County Borough Council

CONTACT OFFICER & ORGANISATION: Hannah Edwards, Conwy County Borough Council

SUBJECT: North Wales Public Service Board Support Grant 2022-23

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 This report is to inform the Board about the grant that has been made available from Welsh Government (WG) to the North Wales region in 2022-23, and how the funds have been allocated across the criteria set out by WG, detailing the type of activity proposed. Please find the grant submission form in Appendix A and the grant criteria in Appendix B.
- 1.2 WG have approved the grant activity and spend proposals for 2022/23.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That Public Services Board members note the report, and in particular the small amount available and the criteria that applies.
- 2.2 That Public Services Board members have opportunity to suggest areas of work that may be progressed with the available support funding. Spend against the grant can be a standing agenda item at PSB so that updates can be provided, and consideration given to areas that would benefit from investment.

3. Report Details

- 3.1 The funding is intended to assist Public Services Boards (PSBs) to build their strategic capacity and capability to support the delivery of local well-being plan, as well as continuing to assist in the consolidation of work on the well-being assessment and plan.
- 3.2 North Wales Public Services Boards (supported by officers) have considered how this funding can be used in the region to support the development of Well-being Plans and Assessments of Local Well-being. The submission that has been developed is deliberately high-level and broad to accommodate all the Public Services Boards in the North Wales Region and allow flexibility. Funding has been allocated as follows (further detail of proposed activity can be found in Appendix A):

Summary of Proposal	Expected Timescale	Indicative Figures
Build strategic capacity and capability across the region	01/04/22 - 31/03/23	£20,000
Consolidating work on assessment (including gaps in evidence base, mapping and sense making)		£15,000
Support development & delivery of well-being plans		£70,000
Total grant awarded		£105,000

3.3 As in previous years, funding is offered on a health board footprint, with £103,892 being made available for the North Wales Region in 2022-23 financial year. Wrexham County Borough Council, as lead authority, has worked with North Wales Public Service Board Officers to submit the proposal for 2022-23.

3.5 Funding must not be used for:

- the development of or maintaining of specific projects chosen by Public Services Boards (other than as part of the delivery of the well-being plan or consolidating the assessment or plan).
- funding of salaried posts (identified for this purpose as a permanent post funded only through this support grant).
- general partnership support.

3.6 Wrexham County Borough Council will monitor the progress of work funded, ensuring adequate financial controls. Under-spend or over-spend will be particularly monitored by the lead authority, with regular updates provided through the North Wales Public Services Board Network.

3.7 Quarterly progress reports will be provided to WG demonstrating how objectives are being met, and how the work being funded relates to Public Service Boards more generally.

3.6 The funding period will be from 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023, with the funding being paid in one instalment by Welsh Government at the end of the funding period, on completion of a satisfactory claim form. With agreement from the lead authority, partners will initially accept billing for any work that is progressed, then invoicing Wrexham County Borough Council for the total amount owed at the end of the financial year.

4. Consultation

4.1 The proposal was first discussed with North Wales PSB support officers in February 2022. A draft proposal was shared for feedback with each of the PSB support officers prior to submission. The proposal was then shared with all of the Public Services Board chairs for their attention.

5. What are the risks and what can we do to reduce them?

5.1 There is a risk of over-spend of this grant, which would be likely to result in financial liability for partners.

5.2 There is a risk of underspend of this grant, which could be indicative of missed opportunities for the region.

6. Power to make the decision

6.1 This support funding has been made available to support Public Services Boards to meet their commitments in relation to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act) 2015. Specifically, it is to assist with the development of well-being plans, and the ongoing development and maintenance of assessments of local well-being.

6.2 If we are successful, we expect that:

- Our assessments of local well-being are up-to-date, relevant and easy to use (at least in relation to the priority areas that PSBs have set).
- Active and meaningful involvement of stakeholders, including hard-to-reach groups.
- Well-being plans and annual reports are clearly communicated and understood by stakeholders, avoiding duplication.
- Steps taken or planned in support of well-being objectives have been scoped collaboratively, and informed by evidence and best practice.