

**Report to Commissioning Executive Team on the Pilot Grant Awards
Process used for NHS Health Checks****July 2010****Executive Summary****1. Introduction**

This report explains how the Community Services and Joint Commissioning Team (CSCJ) developed and piloted a grant process for awarding funding to third sector providers across SoTW. NHS SoTW recognise that the third sector provides a good opportunity to commission services from a diverse range of (usually) local providers to address the health needs of our population. The development of the grant process provided SoTW with the opportunity to develop the third sector as a viable provider in the market for the future provision of preventative services e.g. self care as outlined within our Five Year Strategic Plan.

It describes how the grant process was used to award Cardio Vascular Disease (CVD) NHS Healthcheck Funding and details which third sector organisations were awarded funding and next steps (Third Sector is deemed to refer to Community, Voluntary and Social Enterprise Providers).

The pilot was carried out and resulted in 12 organisations awarded grants for mainly the provision of signposting for NHS Healthchecks. All grants have outcomes and monitoring requirements written into agreements with regular review meetings between Commissioner and Provider. The services form part of the pathway for NHS Healthchecks.

2. Action needed

Members are requested to note the work completed to develop and pilot a grants process for use with the voluntary sector. The Community Services and Joint Commissioning Team will update CET with any further developments as required.

**Christine Briggs and Penny Davison
Community Services and Joint Commissioning
July 2010**

1. Introduction

This report explains how the Community Services and Joint Commissioning Team (CSCJ) developed and piloted a grant process for awarding funding to third sector providers across SOTW. It describes how the grant process was used to award Cardio Vascular Disease (CVD) NHS Healthcheck Funding and details which third sector organisations were awarded funding and next steps (Third Sector is deemed to refer to Community, Voluntary and Social Enterprise Providers).

2. Grants Process Development

NHS SoTW recognise that the third sector provides a good opportunity to commission services from a diverse range of (usually) local providers to address the health needs of our population. The development of the grant process provided SoTW with the opportunity to develop the third sector as a viable provider in the market for the future provision of preventative services e.g. self care as outlined within our Five Year Strategic Plan.

We use a range of contracts and grant awards as ways of paying for services. Historically grant funding to the third sector by the PCT's has been done on an adhoc basis usually following the submission of a business case, however to develop effective commissioning arrangements to World Class Standards, it was identified that a structured approach was needed, based around partnership working between NHS SOTW, the Third sector and Local Authorities.

In summer 2008 a Third Sector Steering Group was set up to progress the development of third sector commissioning, with representation from NHS SOTW, LAs and voluntary organisations. The group developed a new grant process using locally agreed Compact principles to form an underpinning basis for this work. A series of one day workshop events were held in each PCT area to consult on the draft grant process, share progress and listen to views from the third sector.

This proved an effective means of communication and feedback was used to inform the grant process and also gave a good opportunity to improve relationships and stimulate the third sector market. Results of these days have been made available on our public websites.

The intention is to link the grant process to the PCT's strategic priority areas as outlined within its Annual Operational Plan, making sure that future investment is directed into priority areas. The first area identified for use to pilot the new grant funding process in 2009/10 was Cardio Vascular Disease (CVD) using funding to support the PCTs in reaching targets for people accessing the new NHS Healthcheck.

3. NHS Healthchecks funding

CVD includes Heart Disease, Stroke, Diabetes and Kidney Disease. It is the largest cause of death in the UK, with Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland way above the national average. National Health Service Health Checks are a 20 – 30 minute test, carried out by a qualified practitioner, including pharmacists and community health teams. The test includes a cholesterol test, blood pressure taken, Body Mass Index calculation and lifestyle factors.

Those most at risk are aged 40 – 74 years. All people aged between 40 and 74 years old will be offered a NHS Healthcheck. The research found that there are 3 types of people that we have to target:

- Pro-actives
- Deniers
- Rejecters

Our hard to reach target population are:

- Males
- Smokers, drinkers and overweight
- Black & Minority ethnic communities

It was agreed that SoTW would make available £120,000 per year for a 3 year period, to the third sector as they can often have innovative ideas in signposting people in the hard to reach populations and encourage the take up the NHS Health Checks. The pilot grants process was used to allocate the funding as this would provide an opportunity to stimulate the third sector market and provide:

- a fair and transparent means of allocation,
- opportunities to build relationships with new providers in the sector,
- build relationships for future funding opportunities,
- opportunities to test the grant process and review its success.

4. Funding Process

Using available mailing lists and networks third sector organisations were invited to a workshop designed to:

- give information about the purpose of the NHS Health check funding,
- raise questions about the process
- allow them gather the information to help decide if they should apply for funding

This workshop allowed commissioners an opportunity to clarify the desired outcomes of the funding and a further opportunity to consult on the pilot grant process. As a result of this workshop some minor changes were made to

timescales for submission. 15 Organisations attended this workshop of which 6 went on to make applications.

The feedback received from organisations was that this was a good way of communicating the desired outcomes of funding, that it helped them make a decision on if this was suitable for their organisation or not, generate ideas for funding bids, and that they would like this repeated for future funding rounds.

Application packs were made available in various formats either by post, email or downloaded from the NHS SOTW website. 15 applications were received from organisations in SoTW:

- Sunderland 2 applications
- Gateshead 5 applications
- South Tyneside 6 applications
- SoTW 2 applications

Amount of funding applied for by organisations over the 3 year period totaled £1.1m which was three times over the limit for funding.

Decision making on awards was carried out by a 3 panels, one for each PCT and comprised of PCT, Local Authority and Third Sector representation, (no representatives were on panels from their own geographical area). Due to the oversubscription of bids it was decided by the panel that bids for signposting and liaison with pharmacies would be funded as a priority, with some bids providing more than signposting where it would add benefit to the pathway as a whole.

5. Grants Awarded

12 organisations were successful, 10 organisations awarded funding for a 3 year period and 2 for a 2 year period, 3 applications were declined funding (see full details below)

Those organisations funded to more than signpost include Labriut who are working with existing weight management services to make them accessible to the Jewish Community, Stroke Association who are doing an 'active' campaign across SOTW and Gateshead African Community who want to run an event to bring members of the community together to begin to understand and identify their health needs.

All organisations have signed grant agreements in place which detail outcomes, monitoring requirements, and regular review meetings between Commissioner and Provider.

During the process of awarding grants to organisations it was agreed that a follow up workshop bringing all successful applicants and Pharmacists together would be beneficial. The aim of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for all organisations awarded Healthcheck funding to meet and share information about how they will use the funding, feedback on the grant

process, identify opportunities to work together and ensure they were clear about the pathway and their role and functions within it.

The workshop was attended by all organisations who shared information about their projects. Pharmacists attended to answer questions on Healthchecks and identify opportunity for joint working. The session was led by CSJC and public health staff, the topics addressed was available resources, training opportunities, monitoring of outcomes, and crucially the NHS Health check pathway and the roles organisations would have within it. A further session will be held in December following the first 6 monthly grant monitoring meetings between provider and commissioner. A request for a follow-up session at the end of year 1 was made by the providers with the hope of celebrating achievements, publicising work so far and identify opportunities for improvements in year 2.

7. Next Steps

Following the piloting of the grants process and number of follow up actions have been identified and will be carried out during 2010/11

1. Review of the grants process with applicants, panel members, public health colleagues, and our team to learn what worked well and what didn't. This will allow improvements to be made for future grant awards processes. This review will be overseen by the Third Sector Steering group.
2. Continuing support to those third sector organisations awarded funding, who have all identified that they would like to build on the relationships with one another to provide opportunities for sharing good practice, ensuring achievement of outcomes.
3. Regular reporting of activity and outcomes to the NHS Health Checks Task Group to ensure all provision in pathway is coordinated.

Christine Briggs and Penny Davison
Community Services and Joint Commissioning
July 2010

NHS HEALTHCHECKS FUNDING 2010-2013 Voluntary Organisation Name and Description	Brief description of NHS Healthcheck activity	Area to be covered	Target Annual Activity	Annual Budget
Labruit Healthy Living Centre Labruit is a health focused project set up to engage the hard to reach, due to it's cultural traditions, Jewish community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Outreach sessions at places of work and community events. • Use health centre as a base for Pharmacists to provide NHS Healthchecks • Referral onto other lifestyle programmes • Targeting Jewish community. 	Gateshead	50	£24,800
North East Counselling Services The organisation works within the Borough of Gateshead providing counselling and emotional support to families and individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Out of hours sessions • Promoting the health benefits through existing services. 	Gateshead	150	£2,000
Gateshead Muslim Society Provides advice and support to Muslim communities incorporating health benefits and the intention is to create a climate of trust and understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Targeting this hard to reach community. • Outreach sessions at centre for Pharmacists to provide NHS health check. 	Gateshead	45	£5,500

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between the Muslim community and others.				
Route 26 Community Project Provides support and health projects to the local community where there are high levels of socio-economic deprivation. (Applied for 2 years funding only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Promotion within the existing services based in this community building which is extensively used by this hard to reach target group in an area of high socio-economic deprivation. 	Gateshead	36	£2,000
Gateshead African Community (GAFRICOM) Gafricom is an organisation of African people living in Gateshead and its surrounding areas whose aims are to ensure the African people become an integral part of the community. (Applied for 2 years funding only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Targeting this hard to reach community. • Promotion with Exercise Classes and Focus Groups. • 2 Community Consultations sessions to understand health needs of the population 	Gateshead	20	£5,000
Age Concern South Tyneside The organisation provides information, advice and support in all areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Promotion of the benefits of health checks through links with other services • Health and Wellbeing events. 	South Tyneside	1250	£7,000
South Tyneside Carers Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting 	South	1500	£7,000

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(CAST) The organisation gives carers daily support and is a voice for all carers and carer groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of benefits of health checks through existing events and services. 	Tyneside		
Bliss=ability The organisation is a Disability Information Service providing information, support and advice on all aspects of disability in the appropriate accessible formats: they deliver self care training courses targeting settings including workplaces and hard to reach community groups to reduce CHD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signposting Promotion of benefits of health checks through existing events and services. 	South Tyneside	125	£3,200
Apna Ghar This organisation is a minority ethnic women's centre which provides educational, social and recreational opportunities and relevant health advice and information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signposting Targeting this hard to reach community. Outreach work. Promotion through existing services. 	South Tyneside	106	£8,000
Bridge Support Centre This organisation offers a comprehensive range of training, education and health and wellbeing initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signposting Promotion through existing services and events. 	Sunderland	300	£10,000

NHS HEALTHCHECKS FUNDING 2010-2013 Voluntary Organisation Name and Description	Brief description of NHS Healthcheck activity	Area to be covered	Target Annual Activity	Annual Budget
St Mary and St Peter's Community Project Provides support and health projects to local wards which are described in the National Indices of Multiple deprivation as being in the 10% most deprived in the country with multiple health issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Reaching a hard to reach target group. The project is based in an area of high socio-economic deprivation. • 'Help yourself to Health' outreach promotion. 	Sunderland	3000	£9,000
The Stroke Association This organisation provides information, advice and support for all people affected by stroke.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting • Linking with media • Outreach work. • Promotion through existing services and events. • Employment of a specific worker for promotion of NHS Healthchecks 	SOTW	2000	£37,000
Totals			8582	£120,000