

Report of the Chief Executive

FOOD ON OUR DOORSTEP CLUBS1. Purpose of report

To advise Committee of a scheme to provide three Food On Our Doorstep Clubs (FOOD Clubs) in the borough and to seek authorisation to use grant provided for COVID related activities for this purpose.

2. Detail

The concept of FOOD Clubs started as part of the Nottinghamshire Child Obesity Trailblazer project. The overall aim of the setting up of the Food Clubs is that families have increased access to healthier and affordable foods. Members expressed an interest in this scheme being established in Broxtowe when they received a presentation at a recent Broxtowe Partnership meeting.

The format is that families become a “member” of the club. The eligibility criteria for these clubs is that at least one child must be under 5 and live within the children’s centre catchment area but these criteria can be developed if needed to support families with older children. More details of the scheme are shown in appendix 1.

Nottinghamshire County Council is in the process of working with Family Action on a proposal for 30 FOOD Clubs to be set up in Nottinghamshire by the end of the current 2021/22 financial year and this would cover the whole county and be mainly hosted within the County Council’s children’s centres.

The proposal at this stage is for there to be three Food Clubs in Broxtowe to be located at:

- Eastwood Children’s Centre, Chewton Street, Eastwood (Summer 2021)
- Beeston North Children’s Centre, Alderman Cl, Beeston (HOPE food bank have expressed an interest in this Food Club being hosted within their premises and supported by Children’s Centres) (Sept 2021)
- Chilwell Children’s Centre, Great Hoggett Drive, Chilwell (December 2021)

Progress on the three FOOD Clubs will be reported to future meetings of this committee.

3. Financial Implications

Broxtowe BC received a grant of £20,000 from Central Government (via the County Council) in 2020/21 to undertake food related activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. A decision was taken by General Management Team to utilise £9,320 of this funding to set up three FOOD Clubs in the borough. This expenditure will be incurred in 2021/22. Financial details of the grant funding and how it is intended to be utilised are set out in Appendix 2. It is not anticipated that there will be further ongoing costs for Broxtowe BC as a result of this initiative.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the setting up of three Food Clubs in the borough be approved.

Background papers

Nil