Report of the Director: Governance and Communities

Agenda Item: 9

Meeting: 26 September 2022

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

Annual Report for the first Year of North Lincolnshire Fuelled Programme 2021

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

1.1 To inform cabinet of the first year of implementation of the North Lincolnshire Fuelled Programme (Holiday Activity and Food Programme funded by the DfE)

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Funding was made available to North Lincolnshire Council by the Department for Education (DfE) to deliver the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme during the Easter, Summer, and Christmas school holidays in 2021.

In North Lincolnshire the HAF programme has been delivered under the brand name 'FUELLED'. Places were made available to all children (aged 5-16 years) in the local authority area who were in receipt of benefits-related free school meals (FSM).

In line with the HAF delivery objectives by the Department for Education, the 'FUELLED' programme vision is to:

- Provide meals and snacks to ensure participants can eat healthily over the school holidays.
- Provide a range of sport and physical activities to ensure participants can be more active over the school holidays.
- Support the development of resilience, character, and wellbeing of participants along with wider education attainment. This includes giving children and families a greater knowledge of health and nutrition.
- Create a safe environment, combatting social isolation over the school holidays.
- Use 'FUELLED' as a connection platform, linking schools to activity providers in their local area and linking families to wider support.

The Department for Education extended the offer to include the 15% most vulnerable children in each local authority and the criteria for this category was decided as an authority, and North Lincolnshire offered the programme to the following groups:

- looked-after children
- young carers
- children in receipt of 'Early Help' or those protected
- children of recognised refugees or asylum-seeking families
- young people at risk of becoming NEET
- children with low school attendance or those at risk of exclusion
- children referred by other organisations or services such as Social Care, Schools, CAMHS or Health Practitioners

- 2.2 This report shares the offer available to over 6,000 children who were eligible for benefit related free school meals in the first year of 'FUELLED' delivery. The aim of the report is to capture North Lincolnshire's journey to date and identify out the next steps for future planning and delivery, ensuring that the investment reaches those who are eligible for the programme.
- 2.3 The summer 2022 Fuelled programme has continued to build upon the first year and has implemented several changes that have improved both the access and monitoring elements of the programme. This has included a much more effective registration and booking system more aligned to the needs of parents in North Lincolnshire. Forty-three providers have been recruited to deliver the Fuelled Programme and the majority are from the North Lincolnshire Community which has increased the sustainability of the local infrastructure for providing high quality holiday activities for our children and young people.

During the 2022 Summer programme we had a visit from the DfE lead for the region who asked a wide range of in-depth questions about the North Lincolnshire model and observed several the different elements of the programme, including visiting several our local Fuelled providers, talking to parents, children, and young people. The DfE lead was very impressed at the way the programme had been developed, particularly the monitoring of the quality of the delivery of the programme. The DfE has subsequently requested a video case study of the North Lincolnshire Fuelled Programme to share with other local authorities across the region as an example of 'Good Practice'.

The DfE congratulated the team on their work to ensure the programme was informed by local data, knowledge, and insight to ensure there was an equality of access and travel was kept at a minimum for parents, children, and young people particularly in our more rural localities and establishing opportunities where gaps of pin provision had been identified as part of the audit in year one of the programme.

The DfE requirements stipulates sixty minutes of physical activity, and alongside this requirement the North Lincolnshire programme has worked hard to develop a balanced range of activities including theatre and pantomime workshops, arts and crafts, drama, music, leadership, science, STEM, and some sessions that offer a little bit of everything as an activity camp.

- 2.4 The Fuelled Summer programme finished on the 2nd of September. and the feedback from children, young people, parents, carers, and providers has been overwhelmingly positive:
 - "My kids loved all of it! They came home telling me all about it"
 - "Normally my son would have only gone to one session a week as that is all I could afford; this Summer was fabulous! He was involved in so much"
 - "It was great having something fun to look forward to everyday"
 - "The panto with Annie Fannie was my favourite!"
 - "I got to meet so many new people and try new things
 - 100% of providers rated the programme as Excellent or good overall
 - "I have loved it, it has been fab to see children engaged and loving it. Bringing these sessions to children who wouldn't normally get the opportunity and equipping them with the tools and information to make heathier choices has been great

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 To consider the North Lincolnshire Fuelled Annual Report for information. (HAF)

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 To accept the report as an overview of the first year of the DfE funded Holiday Activity Food Programme North Lincolnshire Fuelled, and note the future steps for further development as the programme progresses into year two Summer 2022
- 5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)
 - 5.1 Funded within current resource levels funded by the DfE
- 6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g., CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)
 - 6.1 Providing safe and positive holiday opportunities as part of the Council priorities for Children and Young People
- 7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)
 - 7.1 N/A
- 8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED
 - 8.1 None

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 To receive the report as an overview of the first year of the DfE funded Holiday Activity Food Programme - North Lincolnshire Fuelled, and note the future steps for further development as the programme progresses into year two – Summer 2022

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – Fuelled feedback from providers, Children and Young People, parents, and carers, DfE Monitoring reports and mandated data returns.