

4. FUNDING AWARDED BY THE BIG LOTTERY FOR WEST LOTHIAN'S WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE

The panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy advising members of the award of the Big Lottery Funding to West Lothian's Whole Family Support Service.

The National Lottery Improving Lives Fund had awarded West Lothian Council £297,154 for the delivery of its Whole Family Support Service. The West Lothian Whole Family Support Service aimed to support families with multiple and complex needs with a child under 16 through the provision of whole family key worker support. The award would enable the project to support 70 to 100 families per year; its duration was from April 2019 to March 2022, and with match funding from West Lothian Council it would fund a total of 12 FTE key workers.

The funding had been awarded on the basis of the Service's successes, which currently centred on: improved parenting skills, increased skills to provide a stable, well-maintained home environment for families; improvement in practical skills; reduction in problematic substance misuse; increased engagement with education for children; children developing confidence and skills; and avoidance of accommodation for children at risk.

It was recommended that the panel note the positive allocation of £297,154 for West Lothian's Whole Family Support Service.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.