

PI – DP 7
CORE GROUP SERVICE PROPOSAL

CORE GROUP: Nurturing Families and Communities.

TYPE/NAME OF PROPOSED SERVICE: Interpreter Service.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SERVICE: In order to ensure equality of access to support services for all children and families and to enable the participation and involvement of all children and families in the decision making processes that affect them, effective and appropriate language support will be an essential provision where English is not a first language. Therefore the provision of such support via a robust Interpreter Service should be an integral part of planning and service delivery for all children and families across the city of Cardiff.

The proposed Interpreter Service would enable delivery of a variety of support services to children, young people and families in the city. The primary focus would be on Early Years provision, but this would not be an exclusive focus. It is envisaged that support would be delivered in response to identified need in a wide range of settings including play provision, statutory services and support programmes.

The provision of language support is identified as a necessary resource for the successful implementation of the Family Support Strategy, particularly in the areas identified by the Family Support Strategy Task Group as priorities for ongoing funding, such as delivery of a wide range of parenting programmes, improving parent participation and developing more support for fathers and grandparents. The provision of an Interpreter Service which was able to deliver across Cardiff would enable family support services to be delivered on an equitable model across the city. Such a service would also be an aid to implementation of other strategies and protocols such as The Young Carers' Strategy and the Multi Agency Planning & Information Sharing Protocol.

Such provision is not merely about interpretation and translation but is much wider ranging and sits much deeper than that. It would incorporate understanding and sensitivity of culture, race, diversity, religion and traditions and the way in which linguistic identity is embedded in this myriad of complexities. The provision of such language support, besides helping understanding on the obvious level, can also lead to a lessening of feelings of isolation and social exclusion and has positive benefits in terms of improved self esteem and emotional well being.

The Interpreter Service would also have additional benefits for the BME communities in the city and for those working to support children and families in these areas. Interpreters who were recruited from amongst local BME communities would possess an understanding of the make up of the local population and often have a practical and detailed local knowledge of resources within a community or neighbourhood which is essential and

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provides a critical starting point for reaching out to and working with BME children, young people and families. Thus the involvement of an interpreter provides much more than just language support. The recruitment and employment of people from communities where there are high economic inactivity rates can also maximize the benefits of investing in community capital, with benefits being enjoyed by the individual interpreter, their community and the services employing their skill and expertise.

LINK TO PRIORITIES:

Core Aim 6: All children and young people have a safe home and community which supports their physical and emotional wellbeing.

Priority 16: To ensure the inclusion of children and young people living and working in communities

Priority 17: To ensure the safety and protection of children and young people

Priority 18: To support families in meeting the needs of children and young people

Priority 19: To ensure that children and young people have a safe place to live.

Overarching:

Core Aim 1: Every child is enabled to enjoy the best possible start for their future growth and development

Priority 1: Every child can access child centered services to enable them to play learn and grow.

Priority 2: Every child aged 0-7 and their families are supported to enable good health and well being in the early years

2. Core Aim 4: Our children and young people should be able to make the most of and enjoy their childhood and youth and in doing so should have access to diverse, safe and developmental opportunities which reflect the needs of all communities.

Priority 10: Increase opportunities and reduce barriers, so that all children and young people can participate in appropriate play.

Priority 11: Increase opportunities and reduce barriers to enable children and young people to participate in a wide range of sport, leisure and cultural activities and achieve their aspirations.

Core Aim 5:

Priority 15: All children and young people are able to freely express their cultural identity and race.

HOW HAS THE NEED FOR THIS WORK BEEN IDENTIFIED?

(e.g. reference to CYP Plan / Delivery Plan / key strategy / new research)

C&YP Plan, Delivery Plan, Family Support Strategy

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**MAIN PROPOSED OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:
How would these be measured?**

- That language support is available for all children, young people and families who need such provision and that they are thereby enabled to access appropriate support services
- That children, young people and families from BME communities have equality of access to services.
- That all children and families are able to be provided with information re support services in formats which they comprehend and that they are enabled to understand and participate in the decision making processes that affect them.
- That opportunities are increased and barriers reduced so that all children and young people have access to appropriate play, sporting, leisure and cultural activities.
- That all children, young people and families living in communities feel included and that language barriers do not lead to further social isolation.

The service would have a strong and solid foundation and infrastructure, with robust systems in place for recruitment, support, supervision, training of a pool of sessional interpreters who would benefit from being part of a team. Users of the service would be assured by the quality assurance measures inbuilt and by the standard of the skills set developed. Effective monitoring and evaluation systems would ensure that compliments and complaints were addressed satisfactorily.

WOULD THE WORK BE TIME-LIMITED OR ON-GOING?

Ongoing.

If the work is time-limited, please give estimated date of completion

End date: N/A.

OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING AND RESOURCES

Could there be added value from links with other sources of funding, projects or programmes?

YES

If 'yes', please give brief details

From partnership working with a commissioned agency that may be able to match fund or "top up" core funding. See also comments above re possible income generation.

Is this other funding secure?

Would other programmes be at

Any match funding or financial

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<p>risk if Cymorth funding were not agreed for this area of work?</p>	<p>contributions is likely to be dependant on Cymorth funding being secured.</p>
<p>Comment</p>	<p>YES. This area of work underpins much of the Cymorth funded work currently undertaken and this situation is likely to continue and the demand increase a services are planned to meet future need.</p>