D/South Lanarkshire
Children and Young People (Information Sharing) (Scotland) Bill’s

Consultation

1. Did you take part in any consultation exercise preceding the Bill and, if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?

South Lanarkshire Council did not have an opportunity to take part in the consultation, nor comment on any financial assumptions made.

2. If applicable, do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the FM?

Not applicable

3. Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?

South Lanarkshire Council did not have an opportunity to take part in the consultation, nor comment on any financial assumptions made.

Costs

4. If the Bill has any financial implications for your organisation, do you believe that they have been accurately reflected in the FM? If not, please provide details.

On reading the bill and considering the breadth of training requirements we believe that the funds proposed are unlikely to meet the actual costs of training and the breadth of staff that will require the revised training.

Whilst there is some provision for Education staff who will operate as Named Person the numbers involved who require the training are likely to be more than those proposed in the financial memorandum.

A more reflective cost for Education in South Lanarkshire is £147,864, which is based on the actual numbers of staff listed below who will require the refreshed guidance and training at least 7 hrs per staff member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Head Teacher</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>DHT</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>Head Teacher</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>DHT</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>Principal Teachers</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special</td>
<td>Head Teacher</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special</td>
<td>DHT</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Also the information Sharing Bill makes changes to Part 5 of the Children and Young People Scotland Act and as such the role of the Lead Professional (who takes the lead for the Child’s Plan) and their requirements to full understand and comply with the Information Sharing Bill is not acknowledged in the financial memorandum. (in our experience more than 85% of Child’s Plans have the Social worker as Lead Professional.

The current financial memorandum does not include any funding to support the training on requirements of the Bill for Social Work staff. Within South Lanarkshire the Childs Plan guidance is at an advanced stage and it is notable that in at least 80% of the Childs plans it is the Social Work service who are the Lead Professionals. Social Work Staff will require revised training in light of the significant role they have with information sharing as a result of Part 5 of CYP Act. There are two distinct groups in respect of this training, child and family staff fieldwork as well as others who will all require training such as Emergency Social Work Services and Residential Children Houses where the time these staff attend the course will require to be back filled. The additional costs of covering these shifts would be £11,837.

5. Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the FM are reasonable and accurate?

No

- They may be accurate for the daily costs of backfilling teachers but the numbers are not reflective of actual numbers of staff in Education who fulfil the role of Named Person and will require the revised training in light of the significant changes to Information Sharing as a result of the new Information Sharing Bill.

- There is a need to revise guidance material to be issued to all staff in the Council who work directly with children and families.

- Social Work Staff will require revised training in light of the significant role they have with information sharing as a result of Part 5 of CYP Act. There are two distinct groups in respect of this training, child and family staff fieldwork as well as others who will all require training such as Emergency Social Work Services and Residential Children Houses where the time these staff attend the course will require to be back filled. The additional costs of covering these shifts would be £11,837.

6. If applicable, are you content that your organisation can meet any financial costs that it might incur as a result of the Bill? If not, how do you think these costs should be met?

There will undoubtedly be additional financial costs as a result of the Bill, if no additional funding is made available then the ability to cover the scale of training and revised guidance will need to be funded within existing resources which will impact on other required workforce developments.
7. Does the FM accurately reflect the margins of uncertainty associated with the Bill’s estimated costs and with the timescales over which they would be expected to arise?

No. As already indicated the costs are not reflective of actual need and the timescales are also subject to the Bill journey through parliament and this needs to be considered in the details of any funding provided.

Wider Issues

8. Do you believe that the FM reasonably captures any costs associated with the Bill? If not, which other costs might be incurred and by whom?

No the financial memorandum does not reasonably capture the costs to effectively implement the Bill

- They may be accurate for the daily costs of backfilling teachers but the numbers are not reflective of actual numbers of staff in Education who fulfil the role of Named Person and will require the revised training in light of the significant changes to Information Sharing as a result of the new Information Sharing Bill

- There is a need to revise guidance material for all staff in the Council

- There is a need to revise the leaflets and information for children, young people and their families.

- As Part 5 (CYP Act) is also affected by the Bill then funding should also be made available for Social Work Staff who will require revised training and guidance.

9. Do you believe that there may be future costs associated with the Bill, for example through subordinate legislation? If so, is it possible to quantify these costs?

At this point in time it is not possible to consider the possible future costs