



Item No: 11

Meeting Date: Wednesday 13th May 2026

Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

Report By: Caroline Sinclair, Assistant Chief Officer, Older People and Primary Care

Contact: Fiona Moss, Head of Health Improvement and Equalities

Phone: 07846 445502

Whole Family Support through General Practice (WFSGP) Programme Expansion

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of the report is to update the Integration Joint Board on the offer of additional Scottish Government funding to double the whole family support through general practice (WFSGP) test programme, and to request approval of the expenditure.

Background/Engagement:

Members approved a test programme working with 12 Deep End Practices in [May 2024](#). The test is being externally evaluated with very promising initial findings for families, General practice and community supports.

The WFSGP test has been featured in the newly launched national [Child Poverty Delivery Plan - Bringing Hope, Building Futures \(2026-31\)](#). Further investment was announced as part of the delivery plan to double the programme within Glasgow City for the next three years (2026-29), and trail taking the approach into another part of Scotland.

Governance Route:

The matters contained within this paper have been previously considered by the following group(s) as part of its development.

- HSCP Senior Management Team
- Council Corporate Management Team
- Health Board Corporate Management Team
- Council Committee

OFFICIAL

	Update requested by IJB <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Care Leadership Group Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/>
--	--

Recommendations:	The Integration Joint Board is asked to: a) Note the new Scottish Government award of £5.4m to double the delivery of the WFSGP programme in Glasgow City from 2026/27 to 2028/29; and b) Approve the proposed expenditure for delivery of the expansion as provided in this report.
-------------------------	--

Relevance to Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan:

This relates to all six of our Strategic Plan (2023-2028) priorities.

Implications for Health and Social Care Partnership:

Reference to National Health & Wellbeing Outcome(s):	Outcome 1 – People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live in good health for longer.
---	--

Personnel:	This investment will generate employment within GCHSCP and within commissioned organisations. Fixed term contracts and posts will be required for delivery.
-------------------	---

Carers:	This proposal enhances the identification of family carers (parent/carers and siblings) and support wider access to support.
----------------	--

Provider Organisations:	Some elements of this proposal are expected to be commissioned from the charitable sector.
--------------------------------	--

Equalities:	An Equality impact assessment of the existing programme was undertaken in March 2025 and is available here: EQIA - Whole Family Wellbeing Fund 0.pdf . Additional Practices will be identified in line with the existing criteria and there is no planned change to how the programme will be delivered. Following consideration, the EQIA is still relevant, with no update required.
--------------------	--

Fairer Scotland Compliance:	As part of the EQIA This proposal explicitly addresses health inequalities in Childhood in a selection of practices servicing patients living in the 15% most deprived areas in Scotland.
------------------------------------	---

Financial:	All expenditure will follow the procurement and financial regulations/standing financial instructions of both partner bodies.
-------------------	---

OFFICIAL

Legal:	Contracts will be commissioned and extended in line with requirements and employer duties enacted in accordance with the relevant employing body.
Economic Impact:	This will generate new work opportunities and skills development in general practices, communities and with families over the funding period.
Sustainability:	This three year award is part of the Scottish Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2026/31.
Sustainable Procurement and Article 19:	The procurement process will meet all legislative requirements.
Risk Implications:	Experience suggests full delivery is very achievable if services and staff are secured for a period longer than annual. The income is confirmed for year 1 and indicative for years 2 and 3 subject to parliamentary approval
Implications for Glasgow City Council:	Staff and service delivery from council departments is required in line with the allocated funding
Implications for NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde:	Recruitment and procurement of services in line with the allocated funding.
Direction Required to Council, Health Board or Both	
Direction to:	
1. No Direction Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Glasgow City Council	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Glasgow City Council and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Integration Joint Board on the proposed expansion of the Whole Family Support through General Practice (WFSGP) programme and to seek approval to implement and manage the additional Scottish Government funding for the period 2026/27 to 2028/29, building on the existing test programme.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scottish Whole Family Wellbeing Fund (WFWF) Programme was established in 2021/22 with the aim of improving family wellbeing, reducing inequalities, preventing crisis intervention, and reducing the number of children living away from home. Through this programme, GCHSCP was supported to test a whole-family approach within primary care, embedding dedicated Family

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Wellbeing Workers (FWWs) in 12 Deep End practices to provide holistic, early and non-stigmatising support to families. Members approved the approach and expenditure for this initial two year test of change in May 2024; this test is now funded till March 2027.

2.2 Glasgow hosts 72 of the 100 most deprived GP practices in Scotland, placing GPs in daily contact with families who may not present to other services. Evidence from the test of change has shown:

- 375 families engaged in the programme in the first 13 months, despite only part-time FWW capacity in each participating practice. There are multiple family members supported within each family.
- Within the first year of operation there is a waiting list for engagement with FWW's, 8 of the 12 practices now have families waiting to be seen, demonstrating unmet need.
- There is a 95% engagement rate from the families referred to the FWW's, demonstrating that General Practice is a trusted intermediary to reach families.
- Families frequently face compounded issues: poverty, poor mental health, isolation, trauma, ASN needs, language barriers and insecure housing.
- GPs, Community Link Workers, Health Visitors and others report that the FWW role adds unique value by bridging families to supports otherwise difficult to navigate or access.

2.3 The test programme is being independently evaluated through the University of Glasgow. Although early days significant improvements in parental mental wellbeing (change in mean Short Warwick - Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (SWEMWBS) score from 19.2 at entry to service to 23.7 at exit of service – difference 4.5, 95% confidence interval 1.9 - 7.2, p-value = 0.003) are already being found. Encouraging qualitative evidence shows that families benefit from the FWW's persistent, relational, and whole-family approach, combining practical support with advocacy and local knowledge.

2.4 On 12th March 2026, the Scottish Government launched their third national [Child Poverty Delivery Plan - Bringing Hope, Building Futures \(2026-31\)](#). The WFSGP test programme was featured as a practical whole family approach with great promise in tackling child poverty. Further investment was announced to expand the programme within Glasgow City over the next three years, and trail taking the approach into another part of Scotland.

3. WFSGP Expansion proposal

3.1 The additional award enables a doubling of the current test programme, reaching at least a further 500 families (1,500 family members) and builds on the learning so far through the component parts outlined below.

- Enhanced Family Wellbeing Capacity in General Practice:
 - ✓ Additional part-time FWWs across 12 new practices
 - ✓ A peripatetic FWW capacity to support higher referring practices

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

- ✓ Continued integration with GPs, CLWs, HVs, school nursing teams and early years services
- ✓ Dedicated training in trauma-informed practice, GIRFE and family asset-building
- Proactive Identification of Priority Families by building on GP data systems and improve monitoring of impact on child poverty drivers.
- Strengthened Prevention and Early Intervention Pathways by extending provision across the 12 new practices for:
 - ✓ Thrive Under Five – early years food insecurity and nutrition programme
 - ✓ Youth Health Service – for 12yrs+ young people to receive clinical and social support
 - ✓ Live Well community referral for parents/carers – to support the well-being of parents/carers
 - ✓ Reading and play programmes for early years healthy development
 - ✓ Children’s club budgets enabling access to protective clubs for young people and extending provisions for ASN children
- Critical mitigation supports will be expanded to meet rising demand:
 - ✓ Access to financial advice by basing advisors in the participating practices and extending the offer to include broader financial capacity building
 - ✓ Dedicated trauma support for parents, delivered in partnership with third-sector specialists particularly for childhood trauma, childhood sexual abuse and domestic violence
 - ✓ Young People Befriending Support providing community-based support to 8-18 year olds living in Glasgow, enabling positive relationships, particularly for very isolated young people.
 - ✓ Initial scoping housing responses- a year 1 cost is included to undertake a piece of work to review and consider the plethora of housing issues already arising through the WFSGP programme to frame a way for these to be handled and supported through the extended programme, in liaison with the housing sector.
- Community Family Support, learning from the test programme Whole Family Community Fund will shape:
 - ✓ Local micro-grants for family activities
 - ✓ Peer-led family support and parental wellbeing groups
 - ✓ Culturally appropriate supports for minority ethnic, asylum seeker and refugee families
 - ✓ Support for families with disabled children and parents under 25

4. Finance

- 4.1 Specific Scottish Government funding has been awarded to Glasgow City Council for this development of £1.8m for 2026/27 (award letter received) and £1.8m for 2027/28 and 2028/29 (subject to parliamentary approval). The allocation will be aligned to each of the programme areas in Table 1 as

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

approved with Scottish Government, with management through the Integration Authority.

Table 1: WFSGP Expansion Budget Breakdown

Programme Area	Descriptor	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
HSCP Delivered				
Programme Management	Bd 6 HI Senior	£79,802	£73,808	£76,022
Training/Development/Learning	Bespoke training for FWW and MDT	£23,000	£21,000	£16,000
Thrive Under Five	Delivery within 12 practices	£220,000	£278,100	£286,443
Youth Health Service	Recruitment of staff and expansion of Lifelink provision	£242,600	£244,800	£252,144
Practice Development costs	Practice set-up costs	£60,000	£0	£0
Commissioned/partner Supports & Services				
Family Well-being Workers (FWW)	Commission provision for 0.5wte X 12 + 1wte peripatetic	£250,000	£409,940	£422,238
Community Family Well-being Services	Family activities in the neighbourhoods servicing the participating practices including targeted provision	£230,000	£200,000	£150,000
Trauma Response	Tailored trauma support for families & parents/ carers.	£80,000	£82,400	£84,872
Family Learning/Community referral/library/play	Provision of the Glasgow Life 'Live Well Community Referral' Programme, club activities& participation costs, course provision, fitness memberships, Library activity	£388,000	£230,000	£244,000
Family poverty	WAHP + FFA wkly X 12 practices	£154,305	£211,912	£218,270
Young People Befriending & Mentoring	Specialist befriending & mentoring for young people	£23,000	£48,500	£49,955

OFFICIAL

Programme Area	Descriptor	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
Housing	Scoping of potential housing supports/new ways of working	£49,000	£0	£0
Total		£1,799,707	£1,800,460	£1,799,944
SG award		£1,800,000	£1,800,000	£1,800,000

5. Outcomes

- 5.1 The expansion aims to improve the well-being of families through improving household income and reducing financial stress, strengthening parental mental wellbeing and confidence, and enhancing children's development, learning and overall wellbeing, while reducing isolation and building stronger community connections.
- 5.2 The programme will also support general practice by reducing non-clinical demand, enabling earlier identification of family risk, and strengthening multidisciplinary responses to complex need. At a system level, it will contribute to stronger alignment between primary care, children's services and community provision, alongside improved data and evidence on the drivers of child poverty and family need.

6. Governance

- 6.1 A steering group was set up for the test programme and has included membership from General Practice, Children's Services, the Child Poverty Programme team (GCC), Health Improvement, the third sector, the Primary Care division and Glasgow Life and reports into the Children's Services Executive Group. This provides the oversight and recommendations to progress the test programme and the expansion.
- 6.2. This work is of considerable national interest and will be reported through the Deep End Network, the national Health Inequalities work of the Primary Care Division and be more broadly reporting within the annual Local Child Poverty Delivery Report (LCPAR) for Glasgow City and the Community Planning Performance Framework (focusing on reducing family poverty).

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 The Integration Joint Board is asked to:
- Note the new Scottish Government award of £5.4m to double the delivery of the WFSGP programme in Glasgow City from 2026/27 to 2028/29; and
 - Approve the proposed expenditure for delivery of the expansion as provided in this report.

OFFICIAL



Direction from the Glasgow City Integration Joint Board

1	Reference number	130526-11
2	Report Title	Whole Family Support through General Practice (WFSGP) Programme Expansion
3	Date direction issued by Integration Joint Board	13 May 2026
4	Date from which direction takes effect	13 May 2026
5	Direction to:	Glasgow City Council
6	Does this direction supersede, revise or revoke a previous direction – if yes, include the reference number(s)	No
7	Functions covered by direction	Primary care services for children and families at risk of poverty, trauma and exclusion; family support services, welfare advice services for families and health improvement.
8	Full text of direction	Glasgow City Council are Directed to implement the spending proposals related to the funding allocations for 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29 of the Whole Family Support through General Practice Programme Expansion, as outlined in Table 1.
9	Budget allocated by Integration Joint Board to carry out direction	Scottish Government funding has been awarded to Glasgow City Council for this development of £1.8m for 2026/27 (award letter received) and £1.8m for 2027/28 and 2028/29 (subject to parliamentary approval).
10	Performance monitoring arrangements	In line with the agreed Performance Management Framework of the Glasgow City Integration Joint Board and the Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership.
11	Date direction will be reviewed	13 May 2027

OFFICIAL