

**Item 6**

## **Social Investment Update**

### **Purpose of report**

An update on social investment.

### **Summary**

Members have previously asked officers to work with Social Finance to promote social investment to local government. This note reports on activity and future plans.

### **Recommendation**

Members are invited to note the report.

### **Action**

Officers to act on any comments Members have.

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## **Social Investment Update**

### **Background**

1. At the March meeting of the Finance Panel, Ben Jupp (Social Finance) gave a presentation on social investment. Officers were invited by the Panel to work with Social Finance to deliver a programme of activity to raise awareness of social investment in local government.
2. During June, we have jointly hosted (with Social Finance) two master classes on social investment for around 20 local authority representatives each time. A third master class will be held on 9 July on social investment and adult services.
3. There was a workshop at the LGA Annual Conference on 2 July involving Social Finance and Big Society Capital (a social investor). Councillor Finch presented a case study on the first local authority social impact bond - Essex's social impact bond to prevent young people going into care.
4. An Introduction to Social Investment was also published at the conference which explores the issues (and service provision) for which social impact bonds could be used, the potential benefits and the challenges in bringing a bond to market.

### **The bid to the Big Lottery Fund**

5. The LGA and Social Finance have also put a bid together to provide support to commissioners expressing interest in the Big Lottery Fund's new Commissioning Better Outcomes Fund. This £40 million fund is supporting the development of the social impact bond market. It launches on 9 July.
6. The bid is to provide a range of awareness and engagement activities, more intensive support to help commissioners bring forward expressions of interest to the fund and learning materials.
7. An announcement on whether we have been successful is expected in the week beginning 1 July and an update will be provided at your meeting'.

### **Conclusion and next steps**

8. Members of the Panel are invited to comment on these actions.

### **Financial Implications**

9. The costs of the future activity set out in the bid over the next two years will be met by the Big Lottery Fund.