

1 Horse Guards Road London SW1A 2HQ 22 December 2010

Letter to Community Budget Partnerships

Item 4, Annex 1

Dear colleagues

The Community Budgets and Local Productivity Group, chaired by Lord Bichard, met on 14 December. At the meeting, departments undertook to support Community Budgets through two specific measures: the circulation of an initial 'menu' of options for Community Budget areas, and the allocation of Director General champions for each of the areas.

I enclose with this letter a menu of funding options and other support. This will underpin further discussions at the local and national level, supported by Whitehall Director General champions. The menu covers the departmental funding that we consider likely to be most suitable for pooling or alignment to support families with complex needs in Community Budget areas. This represents a clear commitment that relevant departments and their agencies will engage positively with local partnerships to agree how elements of these funding lines can most usefully support Community Budgets.

The menu is not designed to be a final set of options nor set out specific 'deals' for places.. But it does set out those areas of spend which are clearly relevant to tackling families with multiple needs and which can be called upon in order to deliver locally designed services. Departments are continuing to consider options for precisely how funding should be allocated in a number of areas. As discussions progress, where Community Budgets develop promise to make further efficiencies in spending, departments may wish to consider additional means of supporting innovative new approaches beyond those set out here, including through other sources of funding. The Director General champions will have a vital role in supporting this process. I



expect that we will be able to circulate a final list of DG champions for all Community Budget areas very shortly

Best wishes

Helen Bailey

