

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Katie Moore – Housing Needs Manager

Officer Making the Decision

Alison Simmons – Head of Strategic and Private Sector Housing

Recommendation

To approve the use of £80,000 of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Homelessness Prevention Grant award for the provision of a supported accommodation scheme between 1st April 2021 and 31st March 2022.

Reason

To ensure the provision of supported accommodation for single persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness located within Charnwood in order to relieve homelessness.

Authority for Decision

Under section 8.3 of the Delegation of Executive Functions, the Chief Executive, Strategic Directors and Heads of Service have authority under item 7 (page 8-16) to submit bids for and enter into agreements for grants and other funding sources and this delegated decision sets out the manner in which the grant funding is to be spent.

Decision and Date



Alison Simmons
Head of Strategic and
Private Sector Housing

10th June 2021

Background

Housing authorities are required to provide meaningful advice and assistance to all eligible homeless applicants in order to assist them to prevent or relieve their homelessness. This applies to persons who have a priority need under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 and to persons who do not have a priority need.

Supported accommodation schemes support the prevention and relief of homelessness, by providing accommodation for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and by assisting individuals to build up the skills to access and sustain an independent tenancy and therefore reduce the risk of repeat homelessness.

There is an existing supported accommodation scheme within Charnwood for single homeless persons, funded by Leicestershire County Council. However this scheme does not accept persons who have a priority need under part 7 of the Housing Act 1996. The scheme can be accessed by individuals who have a local connection under Part 6 of the Housing Act 1996 to any of the District and Borough Council's within Leicestershire.

There is an existing supported accommodation scheme within Charnwood for single homeless persons, funded by Charnwood Borough Council. This scheme does accept persons who have a priority need under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996. This scheme can only be accessed by individuals who have a local connection under Part 6 of the Housing Act to Charnwood. However this scheme is due to come to an end on 31st March 2021.

Comments from HR

Financial Implications

Approximately £80,000 is required for the cost of a 10 x bedspace supported accommodation scheme for a period of 12 months.

£288,892 Homelessness Prevention Grant was awarded to Charnwood Borough Council by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for 2021-2022.

A sufficient amounts of this grant is still available to cover the costs associated with this request.

Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
<p>This DD is not agreed and there will be a lack of supported accommodation within Charnwood for single homeless persons who have a priority need. This could result in increased homelessness, rough sleeping, temporary accommodation placements and spend, complaints, legal challenges, tenancy failure and repeat homelessness.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Attempt to increase temporary accommodation provision and floating tenancy support services within Charnwood (this would have cost implications, but there is likely to be sufficient funding available to cover these costs).</p>

Key Decision:

No

Background Papers:

N/A

