

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER SCHEME
OF DELEGATION BY MEMBER OF SENIOR
MANAGEMENT TEAM IN CONSULTATION WITH
PORTFOLIO HOLDER/COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**



SMT Member:
Service Group:
Portfolio Holder/Chairman:
Portfolio/Committee:

Peter McHugh
Property and Housing
Cllr M Titherington
Health, Wellbeing and Leisure

Subject:

Funding and Procurement of Homelessness Services

Decision:

- To approve the allocation of funding as detailed below
- To approve the proposal to procure services as detailed below

Details and Reasoning:

The Council has been allocated funding by the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government as detailed below

Flexible Homelessness Support Grant	£ 63,788
HRA prevention Grant	£ 35,665
Homelessness Prevention Grant	£ 57,308
TOTAL	£156,761

Funding has been confirmed for 20/21 only

The funding is to support the Prevention of Homelessness and it is proposed that the funding be allocated as follows. This would support the priorities and actions detailed in the new Prevention of Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy which is currently out to consultation.

Proposed Spend

Pre tenancy training **£ 5,000**
This is currently delivered by KEY to all age groups. It is a course designed to ensure that people who have never held a tenancy or who have a history of failed tenancies are equipped to manage a tenancy in the future. It is proposed to extend this for a further 12 months.

Young people's Housing Advice **£25,000**
This is currently delivered by KEY following a procurement exercise in 2018. The existing contract is due to expire in May 2020. The service provides advice and support to young people age 16-25 and support and advocacy to 16/17 year olds presenting as homeless and requiring an assessment under joint protocol arrangements with Children's Social Care. It is proposed to carry out a procurement exercise to deliver this service for 12 months with an option to extend for a further 2 years subject to funding and need.

Floating Support **£30,000**

Floating Support is also delivered by KEY to all age groups and household types. It has a current contract value of £10,000 however it is proposed to increase this to £30,000 to enable more support hours to be purchased. It is intended to procure a service on the basis of 1 year with an option to extend for a further 2 subject to funding and need. It is intended to change the focus of this service to be primarily a support to those in the private sector to prevent tenancies from failing and to encourage take up of tenancies in the private sector. Tenants of Registered Providers and Owner Occupiers may be supported with the approval of the Housing Options Team

Sanctuary Scheme **£5,000**

This is a service that provides security measures for victims of Domestic Abuse / Burglary to enable them to feel safer in the home. It is administered by the Housing Options Team and surveys and works are carried out by Preston care and Repair. The current contract runs until June 2021.

Homeless Database **£ 5,000**

The Homeless Database is hosted by CIVICA. The funding identified is to finance the hosting, licences and support for the database.

Bonds, Rent in Advance and landlord incentives
£25,000

This is a pot of money to enable people who are homeless to access permanent housing. Where bonds are paid it is intended that this money comes back to the Council at the end of tenancy if there is no claim on it by the landlord.

Access to services for potential rough sleepers **£15,000**

As South Ribble does not have a high number of rough sleepers there are no specific services to support those who are rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping. The funding identified will be used to work with our neighbouring authorities to develop access to bedspaces and explore options for support for rough sleepers as required.

TOTAL SPEND IDENTIFIED	£110,000
RESERVE FUNDING	£ 46,761

As funding has been confirmed for 1 year only it is proposed that a proportion of it be allocated to reserves so that funding will be available to continue reduced services should it no longer be available next year.

**Wider Implications
(including Financial, Legal,
Equality and Risk):**

Financial – Government Grant of £156,761 is available to support this proposal

Legal – The Council retains responsibility for housing advice and the assessment of homelessness applications in the borough. There are various component elements to the

proposed spending – further separate procurement exercises will be carried out for certain elements. Hence we do not consider that this is a “Key Decision” or that a Cabinet decision is required.

Equality – The proposals do not have a negative impact on any groups under the Equalities Act

Risk -

The Council retains responsibility for housing advice and the assessment of homelessness applications in the borough. Services procured using this funding will be required to supply evidence of insurances and policies


Report attached?
Exempt from publication?
If exempt, give reason(s):

No
No

Signed:

J. Blundell
Date: 17/3/20


Financial Management


Date: 17/3/20

Legal Services

Peter McHugh
Date: 17 March 2020

SMT Member


Date: 31/03/2020

Portfolio Holder/
Chairman

Publication Date (DST use):

01/04/2020	CL
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Decision template revised June 2013

THIS DECISION WILL COME INTO FORCE AND MAY BE IMPLEMENTED FIVE WORKING DAYS AFTER ITS PUBLICATION DATE, SUBJECT TO BEING /CALLED IN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

