

Housing Related Support Grant Agreements 2018/2019

Councillor David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources

April 2018

Deadline date: N/A

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Councillor David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Corporate Director People and Communities
Is this a Key Decision?	YES If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan: YES Unique Key decision Reference from Forward Plan: KEY/5FEB18/02
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO
Is this a project and if so has it been registered on Verto?	NO

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:

(1) Award specific grants for the funding of Housing Related Support, which will be funded through the Housing Related Support (formerly Supporting People) Programme, to the following organisations for the period of 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019:

- 1) Axiom Housing Association – Hostel Accommodation and Drop-in Service - £530,000.04;
- 2) Cross Keys Homes – Hostel Accommodation - £99,109.08;
- 3) YMCA – Hostel Accommodation - £250,059.48;
- 4) Peterborough Woman’s Aid – Refuge Service - £60,205.68;
- 5) Home Group (Stonham) – Hostel Accommodation - £73,375.20 and
- 6) Genesis Housing Association – Hostel Accommodation - £58,066.56

(2) Award a specific grant for the provision of Housing Related Support to the following organisations for the period of 1 April 2018 to 31 August 2018

- 7) Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and South Lincolnshire MIND Floating Support Service - £8,889.00; and
- 8) NACRO Storm Project – Floating Support - £14,666.80

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 This report seeks the Cabinet Member for Resources' approval to award grant funding to providers of Housing Related Support for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, with the exception of the Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and South Lincolnshire MIND and the NACRO Storm Project which will for 5 months from 1 April 2018 to 31 August 2018. This is because the provision of a floating support service to individuals living in Peterborough with mental health problems who are chronically excluded and floating support service to prolific and persistent offenders and those at risk of becoming so, living in Peterborough, will be delegated to Cambridgeshire County Council Floating Support Service from the 1 September 2018 which is currently being formally procured. A separate CMDN (FEB18/CMDN/90) has been agreed to delegate this discretionary function by means of a delegation agreement.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Resources to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraphs 3.4.3 and 3.4.6 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (h).

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	N/A
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4. DETAILS OF DECISION REQUIRED

- 4.1 The Housing Related Support Programme is funded from a non-ring fenced revenue grant from the Department of Communities & Local Government (DCLG) which is paid to the Council through the Area Based Grant.
- 4.2 The focus of the Housing Related Support programme is now on the prevention of homelessness rather than independent living and includes the provision of homeless hostels, floating outreach support and drop in services to vulnerable groups such as young people at risk, offenders or people at risk of offending, young parents, victims of domestic abuse, single homeless and homeless families, people with mental health illness, those who are chronically excluded and people with learning disabilities. The grant funding continues to contribute towards the cost of support staff providing Housing Related Support.
- 4.3 Subject to the recommendations of this Decision Notice being followed, the grant recipients that will receive Housing Related Support grants are:
- Axiom Housing Association – Peterborough Foyer, New Haven and Fair View Court Hostels housing 97 people and Drop-In Services for young people, young people at risk, young parents, individuals who are under licence with the probation service and refugees;
 - Cross Keys Homes – five homeless hostels – 75 rooms in total for homeless individuals and families;
 - Genesis Housing Association – Mayors Walk Hostel and move-on flats supporting 26 people with high support needs;
 - Home Group (Stonham) – Eastlands Hostel for 14 people with mental health problems;
 - YMCA – The Cresset Hostel for 82 single homeless people with medium/low support needs and Time Stop for 22 young single homeless people with high support needs.
 - Cambridgeshire, Peterborough & South Lincolnshire MIND - Floating Support Service to individuals with mental health problems who are chronically excluded;
 - Peterborough Women's Aid – Refuge Service for victims of domestic violence;
 - NACRO STORM Project – Floating Support to prolific and persistent offenders and those at risk of becoming so.

- 4.4 The Housing Related Floating Support Services are currently being tendered jointly across Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council. It is anticipated that providers would achieve economies of scale by delivering across a wider geographical area. The award of a grant to the Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and South Lincolnshire MIND Floating Support Service and the NACRO Storm project for 5 months to the 31 August 2018 will allow these important support services to continue whilst the full procurement of a new Floating Support Service continues.
- 4.5 The Government issued a Funding Supported Housing: Policy Statement and Consultation document on 31 October 2017 following the Prime Minister's announcement dropping the restriction of supported housing costs to Local Housing Allowance levels. A full Supported Housing Review has been recommended by the Joint Commissioning Board once the Government's plans are clear.
- 4.6 The award of grant agreements to the remaining existing providers until 31 March 2019 will allow time for commissioners to take a more coherent approach to commissioning future services across housing, health and social care and look at the feasibility of moving some accommodation based services to the more cost effective floating support model.
- 4.7 An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out in February 2013 as a result of the proposed cuts to the Housing Related Support Programme in 2013/2014. The Equality Impact Assessment has been further reviewed in relation to the grant awards in subsequent years, which are at the same level, to assess the impact of the funding.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Consultation has been carried out with all existing grant recipients of Housing Related Support on the award of grant funding for a period of one year from 1 April 2018 and for 5 months from the 1 April 2018 for Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and South Lincolnshire MIND and NACRO.
- 5.2 As part of the Cambridgeshire Review consultation took place with district councils and service providers and the results of the review and recommendations were circulated to all existing providers. Direct consultation has also taken place with the two providers of Floating Support within Peterborough and the same review documentation has also been released. A Floating Support Provider Event was organised on the 12 January 2018 which provided an opportunity for both Councils to confirm the proposed direction of travel for Housing Related Support funding.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 6.1 Award grant funding and grant agreements for the continued provision of accommodation based, drop-in and floating Housing Related Support to grant recipients for a period of one year and for two recipients for a period of five months..

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS & ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 7.1 The recommendations in this report will ensure that the continuity of Housing Related Support to some of the most vulnerable in society is achieved, whilst a longer term solution is explored.
- 7.2 Housing Related Support is provided for vulnerable people, often with complex support needs either in an accommodation based setting, through drop in support workers or through floating support provided by outreach workers. Our evidence shows that the Housing Related Support provided through the homeless hostels plays a significant role in helping to

reduce homelessness in the city. Drop in and floating support reaches hard to engage groups, assisting people with complex and entrenched needs, often living chaotic lifestyles.

- 7.3 The Homelessness Act 2002 sets out the Council's powers to meet the aims of the act and its duties towards homeless people.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 Cut funding completely and stop the Housing Related Support. Rejected due to the adverse impact on the provision of hostel provision and homeless prevention.
- 8.2 A full procurement has been rejected because currently the budget provision is only confirmed annually for one year only. Full exploration of the future provision of housing related support will take place during 2018/2019 including the potential for further joint commissioning of support services with Cambridgeshire County Council. The value for money and outcomes delivered by floating support are excellent. It is the model of support that both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been working towards, looking to move away from accommodation based supported housing.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 9.1 Grants will be awarded subject to confirmed funding for the Housing Related Support Programme and the provider entering into a grant agreement with the Council.

Legal

- 9.2 The Council has the legal power to make grant awards under the general power of competence contained in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.
- 9.3 The Council must ensure that their arrangements with the grant recipients do not breach State Aid rules.
- 9.4 For the purposes of these grants, the Service of General and Economic Interest (SGEI) rules have been considered. Funding of SGEI is in principle caught by the state aid rules as the state is providing an undertaking with financial support to deliver a service, therefore in order to ensure the support can be provided in a state aid compliant way, European Commission rules in respect of SGEI have been complied with. Grant agreements will be drafted to ensure compliance with the requirements within these rules.

Equalities

- 9.5 There are no equalities implications arising from this decision.

10. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

- 10.1 None.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985) and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

CMDN (FEB18/CMDN/90):

<http://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1430>

Homelessness Strategy 2013 -2018