

Approval of Capital Funding: Refurbishment of Clare Lodge Phase 7 (Dfe Funded)

Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Skills and the University

September 2019

Deadline date: 24th September 2019

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Cllr Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Skills and the University Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Corporate Director for 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/24JUN19/02
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Skills and the University is recommended to:

Authorise the spend of grant funding received from the DfE, awarded to Clare Lodge following a successful application and award for the refurbishment of bedrooms, lounges and gymnasium/fitness facilities at Clare Lodge Secure Children's Home, Glinton, Peterborough, PE6 7AW. Sum awarded by the DfE £1,531,673 for spending in financial year 2019/20.

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to spend the funding awarded by the DfE to complete refurbishments at Clare Lodge through a Peterborough City Council procurement and full Tender Process.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Skills and the University to approve the recommendation: That Clare Lodge can move forward, through a full Peterborough City Council Procurement Tender Process, to seek an appropriate contractor with a view to completing the required refurbishments at Clare Lodge Secure Children's Home, having received grant funding from DfE for the sum of £ 1,531,673 in financial year 2019/20.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO
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4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Relevant Internal and external stakeholders:

- Clare Lodge Secure Children's Home – The young people resident and staff
- Glinton Parish Council – Cllr John Holditch
- Peterborough City Council
- People and Communities – Peterborough City Council
- Department for Education
- Ofsted
- NHS England (CQC/ Sodexo / CPFT)
- Professional services e.g. successful contractor(s) following a Tender Exercise

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

5.1 The successful completion of the refurbishments to Clare Lodge will:

- Meet the requirements of Ofsted to improve safety and improve the living / fitness facilities & environment for the young people resident at Clare Lodge.
- Reduce maintenance and repair costs for Peterborough City Council on general wear and tear items.
- Reduce the costs to Peterborough City Council for large items requiring replacement e.g. gym flooring, bedroom & lounge furnishings, refurbishment of showers & en-suites, etc.
- Enhance the fitness / gymnasium environment for residents to assist in the promotion of fitness and sports within the Home.
- Enhance the living environment for residents, both in their social areas and in their bedrooms.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS & ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 6.1 Clare Lodge is a local authority secure home and is part of Peterborough City Council and provides local authorities, nationally with secure, welfare accommodation. The government are investing in secure accommodation improvements across the secure estate. Clare Lodge provides secure accommodation for some of the most vulnerable young people in the country.

- 6.2 Clare Lodge is inspected by DfE, Ofsted, CQC, and undergoes monthly inspections by a Regulation 44 Inspector. The areas covered by the DfE grant award have been highlighted in previous inspection reports to “require updating / refurbishing”, “does not lend itself to modern living”, “drab”.
- 6.3 To meet the requirements of the young people, health and safety and to meet the expectation of future inspections by Ofsted, Reg 44 visits etc. it was the expectation that during the financial years 19/20 and 20/21 Clare Lodge (Peterborough City Council) would be required to begin a programme of replacement and refurbishment. However, the award of this grant by DfE has alleviated this financial pressure on Peterborough City Council for these works.

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Financial

- 7.1.1 The DfE funding will cover the refurbishment project.
- 7.1.2 A failure to undertake the refurbishments could impact directly on the Ofsted rating award to Clare Lodge at future Inspection. A lower rating would result in a fall in referrals of young people from other local authorities to Clare Lodge. This will result in Clare Lodge failing to meet its financial obligations to the Council as it is highly likely that Ofsted will require Clare Lodge to close some of the bedrooms, significantly reducing its income.
- 7.1.3 To meet the requirements of the young people, health and safety and to meet the expectation of future inspections by Ofsted, Reg 44 visits etc. it was the expectation that during the financial years 19/20 and 20/21 Clare Lodge (Peterborough City Council) would be required to begin a programme of replacement and refurbishment. However, the award of this grant by DfE has alleviated this financial pressure on the council for these works.

7.2 Legal

- 7.2.1 The DfE has awarded grant funding to Clare Lodge following a successful application and award for the refurbishment of bedrooms, lounges and gymnasium/fitness facilities, therefore in accordance with the terms of the grant award, the Council shall use the grant funding to complete the refurbishments. All refurbishments shall be procured in compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
- 7.2.2 The procurement of contract(s) as a result of the receipt of the DfE funding will be undertaken in accordance with the Council’s Contract Rules.
- 7.2.2 A full Tender Process will be undertaken.

7.3 Human resources

- 7.3.1 No increase in staffing required - Existing members of Peterborough City Council staff will be part of the Project Team to ensure the refurbishment works / project are fulfilled according to the required specifications for a secure building environment.

This will include:

Project Team Members:

Business Manager – Clare Lodge

Assistant Business Manager – Clare Lodge

Supported by:

Procurement Operations Manager - Peterborough Serco Strategic Partnership

Lawyer - Contracts & Procurement Team

Senior Accountant – Strategic Finance

7.4 Procurement

- 7.4.1 The procurement of goods / services as a result of receipt of the DfE funding will be undertaken in accordance with the Council Procurement Rules. This will include a full tender process and monitoring of spend, supported by a Procurement Manager, a Lawyer and monitoring by a Senior Accountant for Capital Funding.

7. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

- 7.1 None.

8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 8.1 None.