

Title of Report	Award of MHCLG Rapid Rehousing Pathway Funding	
Presented by	Councillor Roger Bayliss Housing and Customer Services Portfolio Holder	
Background Papers	None	Public Report: Yes
		Key Decision: Yes
Financial Implications	This decision relates to the award of grant funding from Central Government for pre-determined projects received by NWLDC on behalf of all Borough/Districts Councils and Rutland, for services to be delivered by partner agencies.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	There are no implications	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	There are no implications	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To seek Cabinet approval for the payment of funding to partner agencies of monies received under the Rapid Rehousing Pathway/Rough Sleeper Initiative Programmes, and delegates the award of subsequent grant funding to the Head of Housing and Property in consultation with the Portfolioholder.	
Reason for Decision	The grant payment requires expenditure in excess of officer delegated limits.	
Recommendations	IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT CABINET <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AGREE THE PAYMENT OF UP TO £177,600 TO CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR THE PROVISION OF A SOCIAL LETTINGS SERVICE. 2. DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE HEAD OF HOUSING AND PROPERTY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR HOUSING AND CUSTOMER SERVICES TO AWARD ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDING RECEIVED UNDER THE ROUGH SLEEPERS INITIATIVE (RSI) TO APPROPRIATE DELIVERY PARTNERS WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS AGREED WITH MHCLG. 	

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In March 2019, North West Leicestershire submitted a bid to the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for funding for rough sleeper services on behalf of the seven Leicestershire Districts and Rutland under the Rapid Rehousing Pathway Programme.
- 1.2 The bid contained four elements covering emergency accommodation, outreach, floating support and funding to work with the private rented sector and was for a combined value of almost £430,000. In May 2019, we were informed we had been successful in the latter two elements and were provisionally awarded £277,600.
- 1.3 The floating support element of the project was awarded £100,000 and is being delivered by The Bridge, a Housing Advice charity based in Loughborough, whilst the work with the private rented sector is being carried out by Charnwood Borough Council and received the remaining £177,600.
- 1.4 Funding for each element was split into two equal tranches, with award of the second tranche conditional on satisfactory delivery up to November 2019. The initial grant payment therefore fell within delegated levels and agreements between ourselves and the delivery partners reflecting this were drawn up. Whilst The Bridge signed this in September 2019 and payment has been made to them, there have been delays finalising the grant agreement with Charnwood Borough Council and therefore the first tranche has not yet been.
- 1.5 To date, satisfactory delivery of both Projects has taken place and the second tranche payment was received from MHCLG on 20 December 2019. The combined value of the first and second tranches will take the overall payment to Charnwood Borough Council beyond the financial limits of delegated powers and therefore requires the approval of Cabinet.
- 1.6 As the funding has been received based on a proposal by Charnwood Borough Council to carry out specified activities there is no discretion as to who to award the funding to.

2. ROUGH SLEEPER INITIATIVE ROUND 3 (RSI 3)

- 2.1 In October 2019, MHCLG announced a further round of rough sleeper funding with a deadline for bids of December 2019. For authorities who were already in receipt of funding under the existing round there was an expectation that bids would be co-produced with regional homelessness advisors and that any underspending from the existing programme could be carried forward into the 2020/21. As a result, it was agreed that NWLDC would again lead on the 2020/21 bid submission for the County.
- 2.2 On 6 December 2019, a bid was submitted to MHCLG to seek funding to continue the existing workstreams through to March 2021 as well as fund the provision of outreach services and temporary accommodation, which had not been successful in this year's funding bid. If successful there will potentially be funding in excess of £100k for the provision of emergency accommodation, which NWLDC will receive as lead authority for the bid, and this would normally require Cabinet approval for it to be awarded to Falcon Support Services whose proposal forms the basis of the bid.
- 2.3 As Round 3 is subject to further negotiation prior to finalising the detail it is requested that Cabinet delegate authority to enter into grant agreements with the necessary delivery partners to the Head of Housing and Property Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Property, to allow grant agreements to be concluded in a timely manner. Agreements will be entered into with those delivery partners who have formed the basis of the MHCLG bid and whose participation has been approved.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Work with the homeless supports the Council Priority that "Our communities are safe, healthy and connected."
Policy Considerations:	This work supports the delivery of the objectives of the Council's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.
Safeguarding:	The Council has satisfied itself that all partner agencies in receipt of funding have adequate safeguarding procedures in place.
Equalities/Diversity:	The grant funding obtained is providing services to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of our society.
Customer Impact:	Rough sleepers and those at risk of rough sleeping are some of the most vulnerable customers we deal with. This funding allows for a bespoke service that would otherwise be unavailable
Economic and Social Impact:	No issues
Environment and Climate Change:	No issues
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Both the 2019/20 and 2020/21 funding bids to MHCLG were developed with a wide range of partners and stakeholders involvement.
Risks:	Risks associated with the non-delivery of services by our partners are being managed through robust grant agreements, and ongoing performance monitoring.
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