

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY OFFICERS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

This is a record of a decision taken by an officers under delegated powers and where necessary taken in consultation with members and officers.

Purfleet Trust Support Worker Funding

Delegated Power

Specify the particular delegated power being exercised by reference to the Delegation Scheme or Cabinet minute and date

Scheme of Delegation: 7.3.1 – Homelessness.

Decision Taken

To utilise available funding from Public Health to extend the contracts of two support workers employed by the Purfleet Trust. The two support workers deliver an intensive support service to highly vulnerable individuals who have faced homelessness.

- The two support workers each work closely with 15-20 vulnerable individuals with complex needs, with the aim of stabilising their lives and working to secure and/or maintain accommodation
- The Borough Council is working with the Purfleet Trust to secure funding for the posts over the next two years under the Government's Rough Sleeper Initiative funding regime
- The outcome of the bid will not be known for a number of weeks, and it is therefore proposed that the available funding of £15,000 is used to cover the costs associated with continuing these posts for 3 months from 1st April 2019.
- Public Health has confirmed their support for the funds to be used for the purpose outlined. Public Health requires that the funding is channelled via the council.

Reasons for the Decision

- The service provided prevents some of the most vulnerable and chaotic homeless individuals losing accommodation and being forced to rough sleep – it connects them with medical help, social and welfare services.
- Avoiding rough sleeping is a priority given how dangerous it is for individuals and their physical and mental health
- It is envisaged this funding will meet a gap between existing funding provided by the Borough Council and future funding to be secured from the Ministry for Housing communities and Local Government

Options considered

There is currently a funding gap to this service which is considered vital to efforts to reduce rough sleeping and homelessness. No other options are appropriate.

Any declarations of interest and details of any dispensations granted in respect of interests.

None

List of Background papers

None

Authorisation

Post Held

Signature

Date

28/3/2019

Consultation with members/officers

If the decision is taken following consultation with the members/officers, please give details:

Signed by Member as consulted: *Councillor Adrian Lawrence*

Date 28/03/19

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

Name of policy/service/function	Intensive Support Service – Purfleet Trust				
Is this a new or existing policy/ service/function?	Existing				
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened. Please state if this policy/service rigidly constrained by statutory obligations	To prevent people rough sleeping by providing a support service to vulnerable individuals with complex needs. There are statutory obligations to prevent and relieve homelessness				
Question	Answer				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups according to their different protected characteristic, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age			√	
	Disability			√	
	Gender			√	
	Gender Re-assignment			√	
	Marriage/civil partnership			√	
	Pregnancy & maternity			√	
	Race			√	
	Religion or belief			√	
	Sexual orientation			√	
	Other (eg low income)	√			
Question	Answer	Comments			
2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?	No				
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?	No				
4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?	Yes	People with complex needs are more likely to face homelessness and rough sleeping			
<p>5. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions? If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section</p>	Yes / No	Actions:			
		Actions agreed by EWG member: Name			
Assessment completed by: Name	Duncan Hall				
Job title Housing Services Manager	Date 28 March 2019				
Please Note: If there are any positive or negative impacts identified in question 1, or there any 'yes' responses to questions 2 – 4 a full impact assessment will be required.					

