



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Officer Delegated Decision

19 January 2023

Craig Spence – Acting Director of Housing



Homelessness Prevention Grant – Winter 2022 financial support

To accept the top up funding of £54,168 to support to help prevent vulnerable households from becoming homeless and manage local homelessness pressures

Decision made by:	Craig Spence – Acting Director of Housing
Decision:	To accept the additional funding of £54,168 to the Homeless Prevention Grant from the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities
Date:	19 January 2023
Public or Exempt:	This report is not exempt from publication
Reasons for exemption:	N/A
Conflicts of interest:	No
Policy compliant:	Yes
Details of delegation:	The Acting Director of Housing is authorised to approve a change to establishment should any extra funding be awarded for exceptional and responsive situations.

Contact

Sarah McQueen – Housing Options Manager



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1 The Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To set out the reason behind the funding being required to support in the ongoing provision of statutory homelessness services.

2 Comments of Consultees

- 2.1 N/a

3 Available Options Considered

- 3.1 To grant the approval to accept the funding.
- 3.2 To not approve and the work will be picked up through daily demands with already added pressure on the homelessness services and the timeline for the newly adopted allocations policy.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 3.1 - To grant the approval to accept the additional funding of £54,168 to the Homeless Prevention Grant from the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities.

5 Reasons for the Decision (s)

- 5.1 On 30th November 2022, the government (DLUHC) announced additional funding through a top-up to the Homelessness Prevention Grant.
- 5.2 This additional funding will support you to help prevent vulnerable households from becoming homeless and manage local homelessness pressures.
- 5.3 As a top-up to the existing Homelessness Prevention Grant, this grant is ringfenced for homelessness to target those most in need and to ensure local authorities are resourced to take action to prevent homelessness and continue to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.
- 5.4 Earlier intervention to prevent homelessness is more effective and better value for money than waiting for households to become homeless. It is expected that this funding is used to maximise upstream homelessness prevention to stop vulnerable households from becoming homeless, as well as helping to meet temporary accommodation costs where necessary.
- 5.5 The funding has been allocated on the same basis as the HPG allocation for 2022/23, the methodology for which can be found on: GOV.UK. This funding must be spent by the end of the 2022/23 financial year.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 This funding will assist with alleviating pressure on the existing homelessness prevention grant funding. The additional funding can be used towards any SWEP provisions that although not a statutory duty, would usually be funded by the homelessness prevention grant.

Financial Implications reviewed by: Richard Wyles, Chief Finance Officer

7 Legal and Governance Implications

- 7.1 Funding will help enable statutory homelessness provisions to be enhanced through the winter months, giving opportunity to explore various homelessness prevention initiatives to fulfil our statutory duties.
- 7.2 This funding will also assist with the provision of temporary accommodation for those at crisis point. Not only under statutory duties, but under the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol once activated.

Legal Implications reviewed by: Mandy Braithwaite, Legal Executive

8 Equality and Safeguarding implications

Ensuring that everyone has a safe and suitable accommodation is a foundation for good health and this is of particular importance throughout the winter months. This funding will help with providing accommodation to those at crisis point, and when SWEP is activated, this extends to all, regardless of priority need status.

This in effect will manage all equality and safeguarding implications.

9 How will the recommendations support South Kesteven District Council's declaration of a 'climate' emergency?

- 9.1 No impact

10 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Homelessness prevent grant top-up award letter.

Signed by: Craig Spence

Date: 19 January 2023