



**SOUTH  
KESTEVEN  
DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

## Officer Delegated Decision

3 June 2025

Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive  
and Section 151 Officer

### Warm Front Social Housing Fund

To approve the acceptance of the Warm Homes Social Housing Fund (WH-SHF) grant of £4.2m from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and to amend the HRA Capital Programme to reflect this funding award.

#### Contact

Alison Hall-Wright, Director of Housing and Projects

✉ Alison.hall-wright@southkesteven.gov.uk

<b>Decision made by:</b>	Karen Bradford, Chief Executive, Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer, Cllr Virginia Moran, Cabinet Member for Housing and Cllr Richard Cleaver, Cabinet Member for Property and Public Engagement
<b>Decision:</b>	To approve the acceptance of the WH-SHF grant and to amend the HRA Capital Programme to reflect this funding award.
<b>Public or Exempt:</b>	Public
<b>Reasons for exemption:</b>	
<b>Conflicts of interest:</b>	No
<b>Policy compliant:</b>	Yes
<b>Details of delegation:</b>	At their meeting on 27 February 2025 Full Council agreed to approve a delegation to the Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer and the Cabinet Members for Housing and Property to accept the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and to amend the Capital Programme Financing Statement as required.

## **1. Implications**

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

### ***Finance***

- 1.1 At the time of producing the Budget Report for Full Council the outcome of the Council's bid to DESNZ in respect of WH-SHF grant funding to deliver energy efficiency measures to properties in the Council's Housing Stock with an Energy Performance Certificate of D and below had not been received. The HRA Capital programme included a £12m allocation for decarbonisation works over a 3 year period which included £6m grant funding. The Council has received confirmation of a reduced funding allocation of £4.2m to be delivered over a 2 year period so the indicative HRA Capital programme for 2027/28 will be amended to reflect. The Budget report included a delegation to accept the award should the application be successful.

Completed by: Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer

### ***Procurement***

- 1.2 It is confirmed that a fully compliant procurement process has been completed and the Council's Procurement Lead has been consulted throughout the process.

Completed by: Helen Baldwin (Procurement Lead)

### ***Legal and Governance***

- 1.3 The delegation from Full Council on 27 February 2025 references the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund which was withdrawn on 23 September 2024. This fund has been replaced by the Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund.

The officers and Councillors above have the delegated authority from Full Council to take this decision.

Completed by: James Welbourn, Democratic Services Manager

### ***Climate Change***

- 1.4 The allocation of funding via the Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund will allow for a significant programme of energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation measures to be installed in Council owned properties. Investment in these properties via grant funding and allocated HRA funding will also help to reduce running costs for tenants, address risk of fuel poverty and promote warm and efficient homes.

Completed by: Serena Brown, Sustainability and Climate Change Manager

## **2. The Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To approve the acceptance of the WH-SHF grant of £4.2m from DESNZ and to amend the HRA Capital Programme to reflect this funding award.
- 2.2 The Council submitted a bid to DESNZ in November 2024 for £6m of WH-SHF grant funding to support the installation of energy efficiency measures in properties in the Council's Housing Stock with an Energy Performance Certificate of D and below.
- 2.3 The Council is also required allocate 50% match funding to the scheme so the 3 year HRA Capital programme approved by Full Council on 27 February 2025 includes a £12m Decarbonisation Works Programme.
- 2.4 At the time of writing the Budget report the Council had not received confirmation of the grant award so a delegation was approved for the Chief Executive, S151 Officer and the Cabinet Members for Housing and Property to accept the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and to amend the Capital Programme Financing Statement as required.
- 2.5 Following confirmation of the reduced award the Capital programme will be reduced to £8.4m to be delivered over a 2 year period.

## **3. Available Options Considered**

- 3.1 To not approve the acceptance of the grant funding.
- 3.2 To approve the acceptance of the grant funding so that the programme can commence in April 2025.

## **4. Preferred Option**

- 4.1 To approve the acceptance of the grant funding.

## **5. Reasons for the Decision(s)**

5.1 Accepting the grant funding will allow the Council to continue to deliver energy efficiency measure to properties in the Council's Housing Stock with an EPC rating of D and below.

Signed by: Richard Wyles

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