



**EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD
Cabinet Member**

REF No: 144/24

A1 Service Area	Communities and Regulatory Services
A2 Title	Return of unspent Homelessness Funding from the Discretionary Housing Payment Fund
A3 Decision Taken By	Cabinet Member
A4 Chief Officer	Please print name: Thomas Deery Please sign name: (Approval via email 10/04/2024)
A5 Leader / Deputy Leader	Please print name: Cllr Simon Slater Please sign name: (Approval via email 10/04/2024)
A6 Date of Decision	10 th April 2024

Confidentiality

A7 Is this Decision confidential by containing exempt information as described in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972?	No
A7.1 If yes, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972.	NA

Conflict of Interest

Are there any conflicts of interest to declare? No

(If “Yes” please contact the Chief Executive before making the Decision. A note of dispensation should be attached).

Scrutiny



A8 Which Scrutiny Committee should this decision be submitted to? *(Please tick as appropriate)*

Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee

Scrutiny (Regeneration Development and Market Hall) Committee

Scrutiny (Health and Wellbeing) Committee ✓

Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee

B1 What is the Decision?	To return homelessness funding placed into the Discretionary Housing Payment funding pot via EDR 068/23 which remains unspent at financial year end (Appendix 1) back into the Housing Options budget for homelessness purposes.
B2 What are the reasons for the Decision?	<p>The Council has been awarded a Homeless Prevention Grant to maximise prevention of homelessness activity and reduce reliance upon temporary accommodation (Appendix 2), with a top up awarded in June 2023 (Appendix 3).</p> <p>There has been an underspend of £12,416.10 on the funds sent to the Discretionary Housing Payment funding pot which can be legitimately used for homeless purposes within Housing Options expenditure incurred during 2023/24.</p>
B2 Alternative options considered and rejected?	If the Homeless Prevention Grant remains unspent by year end it will need to be returned to DLUHC.
B3 What are the contributions to Corporate Priorities?	Standing up for our communities
B4 What are the Human Rights considerations?	There are no Human Rights issues arising from this decision.

Financial Implications

<p>B5 What are the financial implications?</p>	<p>The main financial issues arising from this decision are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DLUHC letter at Appendix 3 states that the Council will receive £140,739 to maximise support for the Ukrainian cohort into sustainable accommodation, but it may also be used to support with wider homelessness pressures. • The total HPG allocation is ring-fenced for 2023-24 and is to be spent in adherence with the principles set out in the letters at Appendices 2 and 3, by the 31st March 2024. Any amount unspent will need to be returned to DLUHC. • There is a range of expenditure on the Housing Options budget that could be funded with HPG, such as temporary accommodation costs. Any unspent amount diverted to these costs can alleviate pressures faced by this budget. • The figure of £12,416.10 is subject to review and may therefore vary.
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Revenue	2023/24	2024/25
Clawback from planned use to fund DHP	(£12,416.10)	Nil
Contribution to HPG related expenditure	£12,416.10	Nil
Impact on the MTFS	Nil	Nil

<p>The finance section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit:</p>	<p>Please print name: Ross White</p> <p>Please sign name: (Approval via email 28/03/24)</p>
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Policy Framework

B6 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's policy framework?	Yes
B6.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B6.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	Yes
B7 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's budget?	Yes
B7.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B7.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	Yes

Equalities Implications

B8 What are the Equalities implications:
B8.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is able to provide services to homeless households using the grant.
B8.2 Negative (Threats): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified.
B8.3 The subject of this decision is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality impact assessment is not required.
B8.4 NA

Risk Assessment

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications:
B9.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is able to meet in year expenditure where this has been used to provide services to homeless households.
B9.2 Negative (Threats) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None identified.

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications:

B9.3 The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

Legal Considerations

B10 What are the Legal Considerations:

B10.1 The main legal issues arising from this decision are as follows:

- The return of the unspent homelessness funding to DLUHC is in accordance with the conditions of funding as set-out in the letter from DLUHC and in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team

Please print name: Glen McCusker – Locum Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer.

Please sign name: (Approval via email 02/04/2024)

Sustainability Implications

B11 What are the Sustainability implications:

B11.1 The proposal would not result in an overall positive effect in terms of sustainability (including climate change and change adaptation measures). The positive/negative impacts are set out below (please refer to guidance notes).

B11.2 NA

B11.3 NA

Health & Safety Implications

B12 What are the Health & Safety implications:

B12.1 A Risk Assessment has not been carried out and entered into Safety Media for all significant hazards and risks because there are no significant hazards or risks arising from this decision.

B12.2 Any financial implications to mitigate against these hazards and risks are considered above.

B12.3 NA

B12 What are the Health & Safety implications:

B12.3.1 NA

B12.3.2 NA

Key Decision

B13 Is this a Key Decision? No

Note: A Key Executive Decision is one where:

- 1. REVENUE – Any contract or proposal with an annual payment or saving of more than £100,000**
- 2. CAPITAL – Any capital project with a value in excess of £150,000**
- 3. A decision which significantly affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.**

B13.1 If this is a Key Decision, is this an urgent decision such that a delay caused by use of the Call-in Procedure would seriously prejudice the public interest?

NA

B13.2 If yes, has the Mayor or in his/her absence the Deputy Mayor or in his/her absence the Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee agreed that the decision will be exempt from Call-in?

NA

NOTE: If this decision is subject to the Call-in Procedure it will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 3 working days after publication – unless 10 Members of the Council call in the decision.

Please send the original signed document to andrea.davies@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk