

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	FINANCE AND DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE	22 JANUARY 2018	5
FULLY FUNDED ADDITION TO THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME IN 2017/18 - DISABLED FACILITY GRANT ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION 2017-18			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

The Environment, Health and Housing Committee, at its meeting on 9 January 2017 heard of the allocation of an additional £42 million of capital funding for the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) in 2017/18 for local authorities in England by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Autumn Statement. On the 1st December Fylde BC were allocated additional funding of £91,882.85. The amount may increase as it is understood a number of local authorities will not be taking up the allocation and there is a strong likelihood that the initial allocation will increase.

Approval from the Finance and Democracy Committee is required to approve a fully-funded addition to the Capital Programme in 2017/18.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested:

1. To approve a fully-funded increase in the cost of the DFG scheme within the approved Capital Programme for 2017/18 in the sum of the initial grant allocation of £91,882, (and any additional monies that may be allocated if the grant is not taken by all local authorities in England), fully-funded by the Better Care Fund/DFG grant.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Environment, Health and Housing Committee, held on 9 January 2018

It was resolved to

1. Recommend to the Finance and Democracy Committee approval of a fully-funded increase in the cost of the DFG scheme within the approved Capital Programme for 2017/18 in the sum of the initial grant allocation of £91,882, (and any additional monies that may be allocated if the grant is not taken by all local authorities in England), fully-funded by the Better Care Fund/DFG grant;
2. Note the contents of the report, the on-going work to appraise available options and current guidance available on how the funding may be used; and
3. To formally thank the Housing Team for their work and success with the processing of the Disabled Facilities Grants.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	✓
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	✓
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	✓

REPORT

1. In the Autumn Budget, the Chancellor announced an additional £42 million of capital funding for the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) in 2017-18 for local authorities in England. Unlike the current 2017-18 DFG Grant Determination, in two tier areas the additional funding will be issued directly to the lower tier authorities. On the 1st December Fylde BC were allocated additional funding of £91,882.85. This amount may increase as we understand a number of local authorities will not be taking up their allocation.
2. This additional funding will not be subject to the usual [Better Care Fund \(BCF\) requirements](#) such as the need for local authorities and clinical commissioning groups to jointly agree how to spend the funding as part of the local BCF plan.
3. This allocation allows for spend to be extended to “wider social care capital projects” and as such initial discussions have taken place with other partner organisations
4. Guidance available as at the writing of the report is limited to the information provided in Appendix 1 – Autumn Budget announcement: Additional £42 million for DFG in 2017-18. An additional grant determination letter is due which will include a declaration of the additional grant usage to ensure that it has been spent in accordance with the conditions attached to the original grant.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	The Committee are requested to approve a fully-funded increase in the cost of the DFG scheme within the approved Capital Programme for 2017/18 in the sum of the initial grant allocation of £91,882, (and any additional monies that may be allocated if the grant is not taken by all local authorities in England). The increase would be fully-funded by the Better Care Fund/DFG grant.
Legal	None directly from this report
Community Safety	None directly from this report
Human Rights and Equalities	None directly from this report
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None directly from this report
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None directly from this report

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Report to the Environment Health and Housing Committee	9/1/18	Disabled Facilities Grant Additional Funding