

## DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	19 SEPTEMBER 2023	10
<b>HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION GRANT – 2023/24 HOMES FOR UKRAINE FUNDING TOP-UP SUPPORT</b>			

### PUBLIC ITEM

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

#### RELEVANT LEAD MEMBER

This item is within the remit of Lead Member for Social Wellbeing (Councillor Chris Dixon).

#### PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

1. To advise on the Homes for Ukraine top up funding to the Homeless Prevention Grant in 2023/24 received by Fylde Council.
2. To request approval of a fully funded revenue budget increase for the total sum of £96,670 to be met by DLUHC Homes for Ukraine HPG top up funding 2023/24.

#### RECOVERABILITY

This decision is recoverable under section 7 of part 3 of the constitution.

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. Approval of a fully funded revenue budget increase for the total sum of £96,670 to be met by DLUHC Homes for Ukraine HPG top up funding, placed in the Housing Team base budget to assist with the costs of temporary accommodation and Homeless Reduction Act Initiatives for 2023-2024.

### REPORT

#### HPG required spend to be allocated within the financial year

1. Grant funding for homelessness to assist local authorities in meeting their statutory duties under the HRA (Homeless Reduction Act) was introduced in 2017. The Flexible Homelessness Support Grant (FHSG) and Homelessness Reduction Grant (HRG) gave local authorities more flexibility over the spend to develop services to deliver their Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategies.
2. In 2021/22, FHSG and HRG were combined into the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) and provided to all local authorities with the responsibility for housing, to support them to deliver their statutory obligations under HRA. The HPG allocation in 2022/23 required spend to be allocated within the financial year.
3. A report was taken to Environmental Health and Housing and Finance and Democracy Committees in the Autumn of 2022 requesting the HPG funding at £107,457 be placed within the Housing Services Base Budget and additional amounts be dealt with as revenue funding budget increases.

#### HPG 2023/24 Homes for Ukraine funding top up

4. In December 2022 a £150 million UK wide fund was announced for 2023-2024 to help local authorities support those on the Homes for Ukraine (HfU) scheme and others move into their own homes and to prevent the risk of homelessness.
5. The share for local authorities is distributed according to the following:
  - a. The majority (66%) according to local authority relative shares for the 2023 to 2024 allocation of the Homelessness Prevention Grant
  - b. The remaining (34%) to local authorities according to published HfU arrivals.
6. These splits have been chosen to reflect both Homes for Ukraine arrival numbers and wider homelessness pressures. Fylde, when compared to neighbouring authorities, has the highest number of arrivals in the UK by sponsor location at 169 (see Background Papers).
7. Fylde Council have been awarded £96,670 to be spent along HPG guidelines. The funding is a top-up to the existing HPG allocation for 2023 to 2024. 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.
8. Approval is requested of a fully funded revenue budget increase to the Housing Team base budget to ensure the funding is spent within the financial year 2023-24. It is requested £80,000 be used towards the costs of temporary accommodation for 2023-24 and be placed in the B&B budget. The remainder £16,670 be allocated towards Homeless Reduction Act initiatives where funding is used to support clients approaching the service as homeless into new accommodation, including rent bond and rent in advance payment, white goods, furniture and carpets to ensure funding is available for Ukrainian households who approach the service for support.
9. The purpose of this specific top up is for local authorities to maximise supporting the Ukrainian cohort into sustainable accommodation and be used to support with wider homelessness pressures.
10. The funding is required to be spent within the current financial year 2023-24.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	√
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	√
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	The Committee is requested to approve a fully funded revenue budget increase for the total sum of £96,670 to be met by DLUHC Homes for Ukraine HPG top up funding, placed in the Housing Team base budget to assist with the costs of temporary accommodation and Homeless Reduction Act Initiatives for 2023-2024.
Legal	Duties under Homeless Reduction Act 2017
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	None
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None

## SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

[12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Council – Homeless Prevention Grant](#)

## BACKGROUND PAPERS REVELANT TO THIS ITEM

Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Allocations of UK wide allocation of £150million homelessness prevention funding 2023 to 2024	10 June 2023	<a href="#">HPG allocations through Homes for Ukraine</a>

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Kirstine Riding	Email & Tel 01253 658569	23/08/2023

Attached documents

None