



Portfolio Holder Decision

Published on 20 June 2025

Decision: Request for approval to award additional Disabled Facilities Grant funding in exceptional circumstances

Decision taker: Portfolio Holder for Housing

Decision Date: 20 June 2025

Is decision subject to Call-in? Yes

Deadline for Call-in: Noon on 26 June 2025

Is decision Exempt? No

Is decision urgent? No

Summary

To seek approval to award an exceptional discretionary top-up Disabled Facilities Grant to fund essential adaptations to support a severely disabled child (exempt report at appendices by virtue of paragraphs 1 and 2).

Decision

Resolved

- (1) That the exceptional DFG top-up grant award of £90,000 be approved.
- (2) That it be agreed to waive the means testing of the DFG top-up grant.
- (3) That it be agreed to limit the land charge to £30,000 for the DFG top-up grant.

Reasons for Decision

As part of its statutory duties, the Council provides financial assistance for disabled adaptations. This is in the form of Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs), which are capped by statute at £30,000. The Council also offers discretionary DFGs under its Housing Grants and Assistance Policy, capped at a further £30,000.

Approval is sought from the Portfolio Holder to agree an exceptional DFG top-up of £90,000 and to waive any means-testing to allow for rapid and significant improvements to the recipient and their family's quality of life which are urgently needed.

Options Considered

Option 1: Not approve the exceptional DFG top-up grant.

This option is rejected as for the reasons as set out in the exempt report.

Option 2: Approve the DFG top-up grant but require means-testing

This option is rejected as for the reasons as set out in the exempt report.

Option 3: Approve the DFG top-up grant without means testing but require the full amount to be lodged as a local land charge

This option is rejected as for the reasons as set out in the exempt report/

Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service

None

Information about this decision statement

Call-in

Notice of call-in must be submitted in writing, by email or text to the Chief Executive by the deadline specified above, and must state the reason or reasons why "call-in" has been requested;

Call-in can be requested by any five non-executive members of the Council.

Decisions not called-in by the deadline specified above will become effective immediately the deadline has expired (unless they are recommendations to the Council).

The Council has stipulated that the call-in procedure should not be used to challenge decisions as a matter of course and should be used only when fully justified.

Shiraz Sheikh
Monitoring Officer