

Decision Notice
Delegated Decision

Decision No:	DD12
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Subject:	ROUGH SLEEPER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME 2021-2024
Decision Date	19 August 2022
Notification Date:	12 August 2022
Implementation Date:	19 August 2022
Decision to be taken by:	Mike Davis, Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) and Section 151 Officer
Report of:	Louise Taylor, Head of Housing
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Derek Murphy, Portfolio Holder for Social Housing, Port Health, Skills and Education
Delegated Authority:	Delegation C79 of Section 6 (Scheme of Officer Delegations) of Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Constitution to the Section 151 Officer: 'To make application for and to accept grants or other assistance on behalf of the Council.'
Decision Type:	Executive Key Decision
Call-In to Apply?	Yes (<i>call-in will expire at 10.00am on 18 August 2022</i>)

Classification:	Unrestricted
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Reason for the Decision:	To accept grant funding and enter into a grant agreement for this.
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Decision:	To accept the grant funding of £216,000 to purchase three units of accommodation under the Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme and enter into the associated grant agreement.
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1. Summary

- 1.1 The Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme (RSAP) is the latest tranche of Government funding to support rough sleepers into long-term accommodation. Dover District Council previously successfully bid for funding under the Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP). Both funding streams provide capital funding to deliver additional move-on properties for individuals who experienced rough sleeping and revenue to provide support to the move-on properties.
- 1.2 Dover District Council submitted a bid for funding to purchase three units of accommodation under the RSAP programme in 2022 and have recently been advised that the application was successful.

1.3 Dover District Council now need to enter into a grant agreement with Homes England.

2. Introduction

2.1 Dover District Council was successful in its bid in 2020 for funding under NSAP and as a result, purchased five properties, accommodating six entrenched rough sleepers.

2.2 The Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme was launched in 2021 and Dover District Council submitted a further bid.

2.3 The bid, for three one-bedroom, self-contained properties, was submitted in April 2022 and we have recently been advised that it was successful.

2.4 A financial appraisal was carried out based on a purchase price of £150,000 each and the capital bid was for a total of £216,000 (£72,000 per property).

2.5 This means that Dover District Council will contribute a total of £234,000 (£78,000 per property) from its Property Purchase Fund.

3. Identification of Options

3.1 Option 1: Agree and accept the funding and enter into a grant agreement with Homes England.

3.2 Option 2: Not enter into the grant agreement and refuse the funding.

4. Evaluation of Options

4.1 Option 1 is the recommended option. The additional funding offered to Dover District Council will allow us to build upon the success we have had with the NSAP scheme and provide additional units of accommodation.

4.2 Option 2 Not enter into the grant agreement and refuse the funding is not the recommended option.

5. Resource Implications

5.1 Dover District Council will contribute a total of £234,000 (£78,000 per property) from the HRA Property Purchase budget.

5.2 The on-going revenue cost (management and maintenance) will be covered by the rental income. As with similar purchases the Council has made it will be important that the future maintenance costs are considered when purchasing the properties.

6. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

6.1 There should be no environmental or climate change implications as a consequence of this decision being taken.

7. Corporate Implications

7.1 Comment from the Director of Finance (linked to the MTFP): 'Accountancy have been consulted in the writing of this report and have no further comment to add (AC)'.

7.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The Head of Governance & HR has been consulted and has no further comment to make

7.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: 'This report does not specifically highlight any equality implications, however in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>'

7.4 Other Officers (as appropriate): None received

8. Appendices

None.