

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member



REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – L51 21/22

| Decision | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Title of decision: Household Support Fund Round 2 Expenditure Plan |
| 2 | Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title): Councillor Richard Bingley, Leader of the Council |
| 3 | Report author and contact details: Mark Collings, Commissioning Officer, 01752 307176 |
| 4 | Decision to be taken: 1) To accept the grant of £2,294,796.82; 2) To approve the Household Support Fund spending plan as outlined in the attached report (Household Support Fund Round 2 April to September 2022 Framework) |
| 5 | Reasons for decision: Funding from central government for the Household Support Grant round 2 was announced in the Spring Statement to support vulnerable with food, energy and other essentials costs. Draft guidance on the use of the fund was distributed to Local Authorities in April 2022. The attached plan describes the proposals for the use of this fund to target people at risk of fuel and financial insecurity, based on the learning from similar grants. This plan needs to be returned to the DWP by 29 April. |
| 6 | Alternative options considered and rejected: Option 1: DO Nothing The Council has been awarded grant funding to support vulnerable households, with at least 1/3 of the funding targeted on households with children and young people and at least 1/3 on households with pensioners. To not use or accept this funding would be to the detriment of Plymouth people. Option 2: To accept grant and adopt the proposed plan attached with areas for expenditure based on previous experience of providing this type of support |
| 7 | Financial implications and risks: The funding is provided by the Department for Work and Pensions. The total grant for the Council is £2,294,796.82, to April to September 2022. The grant is funded in arrears based on actual expenditure. |

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| 8 | Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice) | Yes | No | Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which: |
| | | | ✓ | in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total |
| | | | ✓ | in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million |
| | | ✓ | is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority. | |
| | If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions | The Monitoring Officer has confirmed that this can be considered to be an Urgent Decision, due to the need to return our expenditure plan to the DWP by 29 April. It is not practicable to include the decision in the Forward Plan. | | |
| 9 | Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget: | This proposal links to the Child Poverty agenda for the city and also A Bright Future 2021 – 26 in supporting children to stay safe and well through the provision of adequate food. | | |
| 10 | Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact) | None | | |

Urgent decisions

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| 11 | Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public? | Yes | ✓ | (If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice) |
| | | No | | (If no, go to section 13a) |
| 12a | Reason for urgency: We were notified of the grant in April, there is a requirement the expenditure plan is returned to government by 29 April 2022. We are still working to the draft guidance as final versions have not yet been issued by government. | | | |
| 12b | Scrutiny Chair Signature: | Approved via email | Date | 22 April 2022 |
| | Scrutiny Committee name: | Performance, Finance and Customer Focus Overview and Scrutiny Committee | | |
| | Print Name: | Councillor Chris Penberthy | | |

Consultation

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|--|--|---|---------------------------|---|
| 13a | Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision? | Yes | | |
| | | No | ✓ | (If no go to section 14) |
| 13b | Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision? | | | |
| 13c | Date Cabinet member consulted | | | |
| 14 | Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision? | Yes | | If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer |
| | | No | ✓ | |
| 15 | Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted? | Name | Ruth Harrell | |
| | | Job title | Director of Public Health | |
| | | Date consulted | 14 April 2022 | |
| Sign-off | | | | |
| 16 | Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted: | Democratic Support (mandatory) | DS142 21/22 | |
| | | Finance (mandatory) | djn.22.23.07 | |
| | | Legal (mandatory) | MS/38462. | |
| | | Human Resources (if applicable) | | |
| | | Corporate property (if applicable) | | |
| | | Procurement (if applicable) | | |
| Appendices | | | | |
| 17 | Ref. | Title of appendix | | |
| | A | HSF Framework | | |
| | B | Draft Guidance | | |
| Confidential/exempt information | | | | |
| 18a | Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information? | Yes | | If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below. |
| | | No | ✓ | (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain) |

| | | Exemption Paragraph Number | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 18b | Confidential/exempt briefing report title: | | | | | | | |
| Background Papers | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | <p>Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.</p> <p>Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</p> | | | | | | | |
| Title of background paper(s) | | Exemption Paragraph Number | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
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| Cabinet Member Signature | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | <p>I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.</p> | | | | | | | |
| Signature |  | | | Date of decision | 27 April 2022 | | | |
| Print Name | Councillor Richard Bingley | | | | | | | |