

URGENT EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a **Cabinet Member**



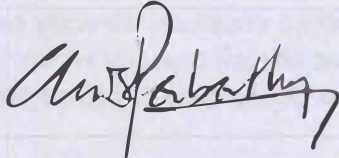
REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – SPHC04 22/23

Decision				
1	Title of decision: Household Support Fund Round 4			
2	Decision maker: Councillor Mark Shayer, Deputy Leader (acting leader)			
3	Report author and contact details: Rachel Silcock, Community Empowerment Operational Lead, 01752 307176			
4	Decision to be taken: To approve the distribution of Household Support Fund monies through the proposed Framework for Round 4			
5	<p>Reasons for decision:</p> <p>Funding from central government for the Household Support Fund (HSF) round 4 was confirmed to extend support for vulnerable households during the period 2023/24. This is a full year's funding with slightly extended criteria. This funding round has been publicised to start from April 1st 2023 to March 31st 2024. The previous round of funding ended on 30st March 2023. The DWP require a delivery plan to be submitted by the 17th May 2023. A decision now needs to be approved for the new grant to allow the delivery plan to be submitted on time.</p>			
6	<p>Alternative options considered and rejected:</p> <p>Option 1: Do Nothing This is not an option as the Council has been awarded grant funding to support vulnerable households during the winter. To not use or accept this funding would be to the detriment of Plymouth households at a time of rising energy costs.</p> <p>Option 2: Provide cash payments or post office vouchers directly to claimants This option would require a significant amount of staff capacity which wouldn't be in place in time to deliver the funding. Additionally, the procurement of pre-payment cards would incur service charges.</p>			
7	<p>Financial implications:</p> <p>The funding for this contract is provided by the Department for Work and Pensions. The total grant for the Council is £4,589,594, to cover the period of 2023/24.</p>			
8	<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice)</p>	Yes	No	<p>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</p> <p>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</p>
			x	

		<p>excess of £3million in total</p> <p>X in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1million</p> <p>X 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.</p>
	<p>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions</p>	<p>The Monitoring Officer has confirmed that this can be considered to be an Urgent Key Decision, due to the need to submit the delivery plan to the DWP by the 17th May. As central government funding was not announced until the 20th February, it has not been practicable to include the decision in the Forward Plan.</p>
9	<p>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:</p>	<p>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 nutrition.</p>
10	<p>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</p>	<p>None</p>


Urgent decisions

11	<p>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)</p>
		<p>No</p>		<p>(If no, go to section 13a)</p>
12a	<p>Reason for urgency:</p> <p>This decision is urgent because of the late confirmation of funding by the Government (20 February 2023). There is an urgent need to approve and submit a delivery plan for the funding to the DWP by the 17 May 2023 and to ensure that comms are in place for the general public who are anticipating this funding being available.</p>			
12b	<p>Scrutiny Chair Signature:</p>		<p>Date</p>	<p>27th APRIL 2023</p>
	<p>Scrutiny Committee name:</p>	<p>PERFORMANCE, FINANCE & CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE</p>		
	<p>Print Name:</p>	<p>CHRIS PENBERTHY</p>		

Consultation

13a	<p>Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?</p>	<p>Yes</p>		
				<p>(If no go to section 14)</p>

	portfolio is affected by the decision?	Councillor Rebecca Smith						
I3c	Date Cabinet member consulted	27/04/2023						
I4	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer				
		No	x					
I5	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	Ruth Harrell					
		Job title	Director of Public Health					
		Date consulted	20 February 2023					
Sign-off								
I6	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DS145 22/23					
		Finance (mandatory)	pl.23.24.11.					
		Legal (mandatory)	LS/00001312/AC/26/4/23					
		Human Resources (if applicable)	N/A					
		Corporate property (if applicable)	N/A					
		Procurement (if applicable)	N/A					
Appendices								
I7	Ref.	Title of appendix						
	A	Plymouth Project Plan HSF 4 (2023-24) - Final						
	B	FINAL Household Support Fund (2023-2024) Delivery Plan Template - Plymouth						
Confidential/exempt information								
I8a	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 I8b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		No	x					
		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
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	28 April 2023				
Print Name	Councillor Mark Shayer (Deputy Leader)							