

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BRIEFING NOTE FOR PASSPORTING FUNDS



(Plymouth Access to Housing (PATH) Houses – SHAP Capital and Revenue Award)

SCHEME SUMMARY: *(Provide a brief paragraph outlining the current situation. Explain the details of the proposal and how the proposal will address the issue)*

The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities **Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP)** provides a capital and revenue funding stream aimed at increasing the supported housing provision for single people who are homeless and/ or rough sleeping, as well as young people who are care experienced, with medium to high support needs.

The Government has invested £200m in the new Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme to deliver up to 2,400 homes by March 2025, including supported housing. The new accommodation will be aimed at adults experiencing severe multiple disadvantage and specialist accommodation for young people (under 25) who are at risk of, or already experiencing, rough sleeping.

Plymouth City Council, applied for capital and revenue funding, under the SHAP for PATH. PATH is a local registered charity working within the homelessness supported housing sector and a partner in the Plymouth Alliance.

Plymouth City Council has been successful in securing £700,000 in capital funding for Path to acquire and refurbish two houses with the aim of providing 12 bedspaces for individuals who are homeless with a history of rough sleeping with medium to high support needs

A three-year revenue award of £571,788 will provide an intensive support service to those individuals living in the two houses

The houses are to be acquired and refurbished by March 2025

STRATEGIC CASE: *(How will this proposal meet corporate priorities? Explain how the project delivers or supports delivery of Plymouth Plan / Joint Local Plan Policies (including policy references)*

Significant action is required to meet the homelessness and temporary accommodation demand and reduce budgetary pressures. Rates of rough sleeping have been steadily increasing and many rough sleepers have a complexity of need, including trauma, mental health challenges, physical disabilities and substance and/or alcohol use.

PATH proposes to utilise the awarded capital and revenue grant, as well as their own loan finance, to purchase two houses providing 12 supported bedspaces for homeless individuals with medium to high support need. PATH currently has one existing MARS house, where individuals are successfully housed and supported through their homelessness journey.

The purchase of these properties directly and positively addresses the budget pressures faced by the Council as well as improving the health and wellbeing outcomes for homeless individuals with complex lives by providing supported accommodation until they move on to a longer-term accommodation.

OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS: *(List the outcomes and benefits expected from this project)*

Financial outcomes and benefits:	Non-financial outcomes and benefits:
<p>This service will increase the supported housing provision for homeless individuals with medium to high support needs. This will lower the number of individuals being placed in B&B under a statutory homelessness duty</p>	<p>Homeless individuals will have access to specialist supported accommodation which aims to meet their needs and reduce levels of homelessness and rough sleeping in the City.</p>

KEY RISKS: *(Identify the risks, level of risks and measures in place to mitigate the risks)*

There are minimal risks to PCC as agreed funding is allocated through PCC and a partner agency will deliver the project.

The two houses will need to be acquired and refurbished by PATH by the 31st March 2025. The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities will withhold 5% of the capital grant, and may reduce the revenue award in line with when the properties are ready to be let, if this deadline is missed.

- PCC will co-ordinate the reporting to DLUHC
- PATH is fully responsible for any risks and liabilities that arise from this project

The risk element in receiving the grant is low:

It is 100% externally funded and as such there is no impact on existing PCC budgets

The money will be paid to Path on completion of a funding agreement with the Council which will for a period of 30 years require Path to:

- Require them to use the money only for the approved purpose of homelessness accommodation
- Insure and maintain the property
- Not dispose of the property without the Council's consent
- Keep records of expenditure and provide copies to the Council on request

The restriction on disposal will be protected by a restriction on the registered title to the property.

MILESTONES AND DATES: *(delivery timescales)*

The funds are to be awarded as soon as possible and the projects will be complete by 31st March 2025. It is forecast that 100% of the capital grant will be released in 2024/25. The revenue grant will be paid in annual tranches (2024- 2028)

FUNDING: *(Include : PCC accountable body status, passporting funding to the provider, who is responsible for delivery, back to back funding agreement, ongoing PCC revenue implications)*

PCC will co-ordinate the data and financial reporting to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. PATH will provide quarterly reports and evidence the eligible spend has occurred

PATH will receive £700,000 of capital grant funding to purchase two houses. They will contribute £300,000 of their own funds to acquire, refurbish and set up these properties.

The three-year revenue award to fund the support service will be transferred to PATH through the Plymouth Alliance via a contract variation.

Reviewed by Revenue Accountant : Nathan Franklin

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Leader of the Council:

- Accepts the capital and revenue grant from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities;
- Gives approval to the S151 officer to sign the Memorandum of Understanding;
- Allocates £700,000 for the project into the Capital Programme funded by a grant Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities;
- Approves the transfer of the funds to PATH, including the SHAP revenue funding of £571,788; such monies to be transferred to PATH via a contract variation to their sub-contract under the Complex Lives Alliance Contract PEO/16175.