

DELEGATED DECISION

Democratic Support



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

Delegated Decision Reference Number - PSHED 4 11/12

Decision	
1	Title of decision: Plymouth City Council (PCC) as Guarantor for Flexible Support Fund Grant to Enterprise Plymouth Limited
2	Decision maker: Councillor Ted Fry, Cabinet Member for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development
3	Decision author and contact details: Jeffery Kenyon, Tel: 01752 304885, Email: Jeffery.Kenyon@plymouth.gov.uk
4	<p>Decision to be taken:</p> <p>PCC to act as a Guarantor for £200,000 grant funding that has been awarded to Enterprise Plymouth Ltd by Job Centre Plus. The funding will be used by the appropriate locally based partner organisations to deliver services, led by Enterprise Plymouth Ltd, which help disadvantaged members of the community overcome barriers to employment.</p>
5	<p>Reasons for decision:</p> <p>In order to secure the contract that Jobcentre Plus wishes to award to Enterprise Plymouth Ltd, a strategic financial partner is required to act as guarantor. This is due to the contract being awarded to an organisation which has small levels of assets and relatively low levels of cash flow. Beneficiaries of the use of the Flexible Support Fund will be workless people in Plymouth who have to overcome particular barriers to secure employment.</p> <p>As a strategic leader on worklessness and economy matters, the City Council has been asked to act as guarantor to allow the funding to be secured. Due to the tight timelines which Jobcentre Plus has been given to get the Fund implemented, this is an urgent decision. The Funds initiatives need to commence in September 2011 and will run initially through to March 2012.</p>
6	<p>Alternative options considered:</p> <p>PCC not acting as guarantor. This will potentially lead to the loss of this funding for tackling the important issue of worklessness in the city.</p>
7	<p>Financial implications:</p> <p>Advice has been sought from Finance and Legal Service about this proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The risks around the requirement to continue to deliver the service should Enterprise Plymouth Ltd fail are judged to be low but would be picked up by the Development Department if this clause were to be invoked by Jobcentre Plus. This risk will be further mitigated by Enterprise Plymouth providing PCC's Economic Development Service with a monthly update of activities• The financial risks, which are again considered to be low due to the nature of the activity, will be mitigated by:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enterprise Plymouth Ltd obtaining agreements with their delivery partners around their individual responsibilities to comply with specific aspects of the terms and conditions of grant which will spread the financial risk. ○ Enterprise Plymouth Ltd will provide PCC with financial monitoring information and copies of all financial claims submitted and will grant PCC access to any of their financial records as required on request. ○ As guarantors, should PCC ultimately be exposed to any financial consequences this would be managed within the Department for Development and Regeneration resources. 			
8	Is the decision a Key Decision?	Yes		(if ticked, complete section 9)
		No	X	(If ticked, proceed to section 10)
9	Date added to the Forward Plan?			
10	Please specify how this decision is linked to the policy framework and/or budget:	Worklessness is a key area of focus for PCC. The award of this funding to Enterprise Plymouth Ltd will ensure that services are provided to those seeking employment in Plymouth. Acting as guarantor will show PCCs commitment to this agenda and support organisations to deliver.		
11	Is the decision a case of special urgency?	Yes	X	(if ticked, ensure that the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board signs the report at section 11a and section 11b is completed)
		No		(if ticked, proceed to section 12)
11a	Signature			Date
	Print Name			
11b	Reason for urgency: As a strategic leader on worklessness and economy matters, the City Council has been asked to act as guarantor to allow the funding to be secured. Due to the tight timelines which Jobcentre Plus has been given to get the Fund implemented, this is an urgent decision. The Funds initiatives need to commence on 1 September 2011 and will run initially through to March 2012.			
Consultation				
12	Are any other Cabinet Members affected by the decision?	Yes		(if ticked, complete sections 13 and 14)
		No	X	(if ticked, proceed to section 15)
13	Which other Cabinet Member is affected?			
14	Has this Cabinet Member been consulted?	Yes		
		No		
15	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Anthony Payne, Director of Development and Regeneration Adam Broome, Director of Corporate Support		

16	Please include the sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DSO261112
		Finance (mandatory)	KFDEVF11120029 22/8/11
		Legal (mandatory)	12604
		Human Resources	
		Asset Management	
		IT	
		Procurement	

Other Information

17	Is the decision in accordance with an Equalities Impact Assessment?	Yes	X	<i>(For further advice, contact Assistant Director for Safer Communities, ext. 4388)</i>
		No		
18	State how the decision supports the City and Council Priorities.	Worklessness is a key area of focus for PCC. The award of this funding to Enterprise Plymouth Ltd will ensure that services are provided to those seeking employment in Plymouth. Acting as guarantor will show PCCs commitment to this agenda and support to organisations to deliver. This will support all four of the Council priorities - Delivering Growth, Raising Aspirations, Reducing Inequalities and Providing Value for Communities – by enabling the workless to better access employment opportunities, raising aspirations through appropriate support for the workless and working in partnership with other organisations in Plymouth to make best use of available resources.		

Background Papers

19	Please list all background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. <i>(If not attached, indicate where it can be accessed either electronically or in hard copy. Any confidential (Part II) information should be included in background papers only and <u>not</u> in this delegated decision template. If the background paper is Part II, please indicate why the background paper is not for publication by virtue of Exemption Paragraph(s) (E1 – E7) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in the table).</i>								
Title	Part I	Part II	Exemption Paragraph Number						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Cabinet Member Signature

20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, City Strategy, Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Plan.		
Signature		Date	

Print Name			