

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	4292
Author:	Rachael Harding
Department:	Development and Growth
Contact:	Rachael Harding (Job Title: Homelessness Strategy Manager, Email: rachael.harding@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158762754)
Subject:	Protect Programme funding for rough sleepers 2020-21
Total Value:	210,877 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>To accept the grant of £210,877 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and spend in accordance with the programme outlined at Appendix 1 - Protect Programme funding - schedule of costs.</p> <p>To grant dispensation from Contract Procedure Rules 4.1.1 and 4.1.2, as applicable, in order for the recommencement of service contracts outlined in Appendix 1.</p> <p>To delegate authority to the Interim Corporate Director for Growth & City Development to sign new contracts/contract variations and adjust the remit of spend between the listed measures within the financial period 2020-21, in agreement with MHCLG.</p>
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>The number of individuals becoming homeless and at risk of rough sleeping has continued to increase throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Like other core cities, this issue is acute in Nottingham and it is a priority for Nottingham City Council to protect rough sleepers from the risks associated from both the pandemic and street homelessness.</p> <p>Nottingham City Council has maximised opportunities to bid for all available funding to tackle rough sleeping in the city - this includes Rough Sleeper Initiative funding to provide ongoing services in the aim of reducing rough sleeping (Nottingham City Council delegated decision 3927) as well as one-off funding streams specifically made available to enhance the provision of accommodation and support during the pandemic (Nottingham City Council delegated decision 3893).</p> <p>In November 2020, Government released the Protect Programme funding stream and invited areas with higher numbers of rough sleepers to bid for revenue to provide additional shelter and support to those individuals who were more socially excluded as well as those who are considered clinically vulnerable.</p> <p>Nottingham City Council submitted a successful bid to the Protect Programme which facilitated the provision of self-contained emergency accommodation and support (from 04 January 2021 to 31 March 2021) for rough sleepers in the city who have complex needs and who have faced challenges in accessing alternative accommodation.</p>

Briefing notes documents:	Appendix 1 - Protect Programme funding - schedule of costs.docx
Other Options Considered:	<p>To not have bid for, accepted and spent the funding This has been rejected as the council was reliant upon this funding to deliver the services required to tackle the public health issue as a result of Covid 19 and provide a bespoke solution to a particular cohort of rough sleepers who have been identified as having limited accommodation options, who are exceptionally marginalised and vulnerable and who are a high risk category of being infected and transmitting the virus in the city.</p> <p>To have accepted the funding and used it in another way than that outlined in Appendix 1. This has been rejected as the funding is conditional on spending it in accordance with the defined programme.</p>
Background Papers:	N/A
Published Works:	<p>Nottingham City Council delegated decision 3893 - Covid 19 support for Homelessness and Rough Sleepers - signed 4th June 2020</p> <p>Nottingham City Council delegated decision 3927 - Rough Sleeping Initiative Grant 2020/21 - signed 07 July 2020</p>
Affected Wards:	Citywide
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	N/A
Dispensation from Financial Regulations:	Yes
Consultations:	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
Crime and Disorder Implications:	There are no crime and disorder implications identified.
Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: Relevant Equality Impact Assessments have been written for previous decisions relating to the Rough Sleeping services contained within this decision within the past 12 months.
Social Value Considerations:	There are no social value considerations required within this decision.
Decision Type:	Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 29/07/2021

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice:

There are no significant legal concerns arising from this report. Where accepting any funding the Council must ensure that this is used for the intended purposes and in accordance with any requirements stipulated by the funder.

The Council may grant a dispensation from its Contract Procedure Rules and tendering requirements for operational reasons where the value of the contract is below the thresholds set out in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended). The author has set out the operational reasons in this report which raise no concerns given the demographic that will benefit from the contracts being in place and the market availability for this type of accommodation.

Advice provided by Naomi Vass (Senior Solicitor) on 23/04/2021.

Finance Advice:

MHCLG allocated Nottingham City Council from Protect Programme funding in line with the bid as shown in Appendix 1. The money was not received up front, a claim was required at the end of the financial year and we were successful in claiming the total amount of funding.

The dispensation from Financial Regulations is deemed appropriate as the accommodation is required for rough sleepers identified as clinically vulnerable and/or rough sleepers evicted from the hotels during the first lockdown and this requires a particular level of support.

Advice provided by Susan Tytherleigh (Senior Finance Manager) on 01/06/2021.

Procurement Advice:

The proposal to spend the Protect Programme Funding on the measures as outlined are supported from a procurement perspective. Dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 4.1.1 and 4.1.2, as applicable, in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29 (operational issues) is supported from a procurement perspective in order to direct award contracts to the suppliers listed in the Appendix 1 for the stated period in order to ensure that there is sufficient provision of accommodation within the Rough Sleeping and Homeless communities. The individual values of these proposals fall below the EU procurement threshold. The use of this funding should comply with the MHGLG grant conditions and suitable agreements should be in place with external providers to ensure compliance and satisfactory performance.

Advice provided by Julie Herrod (Procurement Officer) on 17/05/2021.

Signatures

Linda Woodings as Portfolio Holder (PH Housing, Planning and Heritage)
SIGNED and Dated: 22/07/2021
Michael Wayne Bexton (Interim CD for Growth & City Development)
SIGNED and Dated: 16/07/2021

Clive Heaphy as Chief Finance Officer (Chief Finance Officer) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations
SIGNED and Dated: 21/06/2021
Chief Finance Officer's Comments:

Appendix 1 – Protect Programme funding – schedule of costs

Provider	Service Overview	Value	Period	Contract
Roomzzz	Provision of 15 x rooms in Aparthotel including breakfast for rough sleepers to occupy. Cleaning and repair costs 2 x additional rooms available for use by support staff and those providing treatment	£90,081.75	04/01/2021 to 04/04/2021	Extension to existing contract (Everyone in)
Framework	Provision of navigator support to rough sleepers accommodated in the Aparthotel to ensure assessment, needs are met and help facilitate move on arrangements	£46,731.00	04/01/2021 to 04/04/2021	Extension to existing contract (SStS)
AGS Support	Provision of concierge staffing to assist with security / safeguarding	£58,240.00	04/01/2021 to 04/04/2021	Extension to existing contract (Everyone in)
N/A	Personal Budgets Funding (up to £500 per person) to cover bespoke costs to assist individuals with successful resettlement from the Aparthotel	£15,000.00	04/01/2021 to 04/04/2021	N/A
Nottingham City Council	Cost for providing meals to the rough sleepers resident in the Aparthotel	£825.00	04/01/2021 to 04/04/2021	N/A
TOTAL		£210,877.75		