

**Exercise of emergency functions – Acceptance of the sum of £1,809,400.00 (One Million Eight Hundred and Nine Thousand Four Hundred Pounds) from the Midlands Energy Hub (“the Funding Amount”) for the delivery of Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 (“the scheme”).**

1. Part 2M of the Constitution of the City Council provides for the Scheme of Functions delegated to employees including to the Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service.
2. Paragraph 3.8 of Part 2M of the Constitution enables the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader to make decisions required in an emergency.
3. In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Government announced additional funding to bring forward decarbonisation projects, to provide an economic stimulus, save households money, cut carbon and create new green jobs.
4. The Green Homes Grant (GHG) Local Authority Delivery (LAD) Phase 2 is a grant scheme that will fund energy efficiency improvements and support a transition to low carbon heating in residential buildings. It is being administered by the Midlands Energy Hub for the Midlands region.
5. On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021, The Midlands Energy Hub offered a £1,809,400 grant to support projects aiming to improve the energy efficiency of low-income households with EPC ratings of D,E,F or G. There is a deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to accept this grant offer.
6. If accepted, 10% of the Funding Amount will be transferred to the Council immediately, with the remaining funding being allocated in quarterly payments upon successful delivery of the scheme.
7. The Council wishes to accept the Funding Amount to enable additional energy efficiency projects to be undertaken to support our residents with low incomes, living in low EPC rated properties.
8. On the basis set out above, I am satisfied that the decision being taken pursuant to this emergency provision is critical to the Council’s ability to accelerate the transition to Net Zero by enabling projects that would otherwise not be able to take place.
9. In light of the above I agree that this constitutes an emergency and I am making the decision that the City Council:
  - accepts the GHG LAD Phase 2 Funding Amount up to the sum of £1,809,400 from the Midlands Energy Hub.
  - delegated authority be given to the Director of Finance and Corporate Service to finalise the terms and conditions of the funding agreements, enter into the necessary funding agreements to accept the grant; and
  - delegated authority be given to the Head of Climate Change & Sustainability, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Corporate Service and the Director of Business, Investment & Culture, to finalise the proposal, detailing adherence to the eligibility criteria, that will need to be submitted to the Midlands Energy Hub no later than 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

I have consulted with the Leader of the City Council to confirm his agreement to this course of action.

A report will be taken to Council at the next appropriate meeting that will include information about this emergency decision.

Signed: M Reeves

Chief Executive of Coventry City Council

Dated: 01 April 2021