

Exercise of emergency functions – Acceptance and use of allocation of £2,539,200 from The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (“DLUHC”) pursuant to the grant scheme known as LAHF2 (the “Grant”) to Coventry City Council

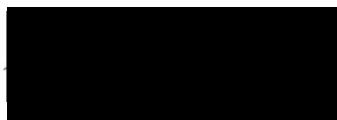
1. Part 2M of the constitution of the City Council provides for the Scheme of Functions delegated to Employees including to the Chief Executive.
2. Paragraph 3.8 of Part 2M of the Constitution enables the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader to make decisions required in an emergency.
3. The purpose and objectives of the Grant are to:
 - Provide sustainable housing to those on Afghan resettlement schemes at risk of homelessness so that they can build new lives in the UK, find employment and integrate into communities.
 - Reduce local housing pressures beyond those on Afghan resettlement schemes by providing better quality temporary accommodation to families owed homelessness duties by LAs.
 - Reduce emergency, temporary and bridging accommodation costs.
 - Reduce impacts on the existing housing and homelessness systems and those waiting for social housing.
4. The City Council (in accordance with the requirements of the Grant) will purchase 20 properties for use as temporary accommodation. The LAHF2 funding will be match funded by the City Council utilising capital funding to purchase family temporary accommodation units which was approved by Cabinet in March 2022.
5. The City Council appointed the registered housing provider (Stonewater Limited) to deliver the requirements of LAHF 1. The Council will extend the arrangement with Stonewater Limited so that the Council (in accordance with the requirements of the Grant) deliver upon the requirements of the purchase of 4 properties purchased for families on an Afghan resettlement scheme.
6. On the basis set out above, I am satisfied that the decision being taken pursuant to this emergency provision is critical to the City Council’s ability to provide housing needs within Coventry.
7. In light of the above I agree that this constitutes an emergency and I am making the decision that the City Council:
 - Accepts the grant in the sum of **£2,539,200** and uses the grant in line with the grant determination issued
 - Approves that Stonewater (via a legal agreement) will be transferred up to £423,200 in grant to deliver upon the purchase of 4 properties purchased for families on an Afghan resettlement scheme.

- The grant of **£2,539,200** is added to the City Council's Revenue Budget
- Delegated authority be given to Pete Fahy to administer the grant in accordance with the grant determination referenced above.

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:



Julie Nugent
Chief Executive of Coventry City Council
Dated: 10.11.23