

Record of officer decision

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| Decision title: | To approve the acquisition of up to six properties from the open market and spend the grant award |
| Date of decision: | 29 March 2022 |
| Decision maker: | Ross Cook, Corporate Director Economy and Environment |
| Authority for delegated decision: | Grant acceptance and purchase of accommodation to meet strategic housing priorities, as consequence of the restrictions caused by covid-19. Leader of the council (Section 9E). 17 th December 2021. https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=50039818 |
| Ward: | All Wards |
| Consultation: | The Cabinet Member for housing, regulatory services and community safety The Cabinet Member for commissioning, procurement and assets DMT Political Group consultees Project Brave |
| Decision made: | <p>a) Cabinet accepts the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities capital grant of £423,360 for the purposes of purchasing up to six properties and a revenue grant of £65,194 for a dedicated support worker for 23 months; and</p> <p>b) Authority to purchase the properties be delegated to the Director for Economy and Place, following consultation with relevant cabinet members and Chief Finance Officer.</p> |
| Reasons for decision: | To approve the acquisition of up to six properties from the open market in response to the Covid-19 emergency, to accommodate six people who have long and/or repeated history of rough sleeping |
| Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overall budget of £176,400 for each property has been agreed for the purchase and refurbishment • Each property has been allocated a budget up to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max purchase Property £150,000 Legal Fees/ surveys £8,400 Stamp duty £5,000 Refurbishment works £10,000 Furnishings £3,000 |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to spend the funding awarded by DLUHC will result in the grant offer being retracted. • The council has a statutory duty to house those who are unintentionally homeless • Purchase of these units will discharge the Councils Homelessness Duty • A RICS Homebuyers Report will be undertaken on each property which will demonstrate that the properties are all value for money, confirm the condition of each property and identify any remedial/required works • The procurement of the building improvements works will be in accordance with the council's contract procedure rules. |
| Details of any alternative options considered and rejected: | None |
| Details of any declarations of interest made: | None |

I am an officer delegated to make the decision

Signed:

Print Name: Ross Cook

Job Title: Corporate Director Economy and Environment