

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Reference | |
| Executive Director | Liz Cook |
| Cabinet Member | Cllr Gold |

Section A

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Service Area | Housing |
| Budget Option Description | Homelessness Prevention Grant |

| Budget Reduction Proposal – Detail and Objectives |
|--|
| <p>In 2021/22 the Government combined and uplifted what was previously the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant and Homelessness Reduction Grant. In 2020/21 local authorities were provided with funding of £200m through the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant and £63m through the Homelessness Reduction Grant. In 2021/22 these two funding streams were combined and uplifted nationally by £47m to create a fund of £310m. Bury Council's allocation was £463,254</p> <p>In 2022/23 the Council's allocation was an almost identical amount of £463,255</p> <p>The purpose of the Homelessness Prevention Grant is to give local authorities control and flexibility in managing homelessness pressures and supporting those who are at risk of homelessness. We expect local authorities to use it to deliver the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To fully enforce the Homelessness Reduction Act and contribute to ending rough sleeping by increasing activity to prevent single homelessness • Reduce family temporary accommodation numbers through maximising family homelessness prevention • Eliminate the use of unsuitable bed and breakfast accommodation for families for longer than the statutory 6-week limit <p>Bury Council already provides support to prevent homelessness therefore this grant will be used wherever possible to fund existing interventions and support currently funded by the Council's base budget thereby reducing the base budget funding requirement by an equivalent amount.</p> <p>The assumption is that the Homelessness Prevention Grant will continue at the current level of £463,255 in 2023/24 and future years.</p> |

| | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Budget Reduction (£m) | £0.464 | £0.464 | £0.464 |
| Staffing Reduction (FTE) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Section B

What impact does the proposal have on:

| |
|---|
| Property |
| None |
| Service Delivery |
| None as existing services will continue |
| Organisation (Including Other Directorates/Services) |
| None as existing services will continue |
| Workforce – Number of posts likely to be affected. |
| None as existing services will continue |
| Communities and Service Users |
| None as existing services will continue |
| Other Partner Organisations |
| None as existing services will continue |

Section C
Key Risks and Mitigations

| Risks | Mitigations |
|--|---|
| There is a risk of challenge related to additional funding provided by Government being used to fund existing services and therefore not provide the additional support intended | Bury Council already provides support to prevent homelessness and this funding allows these services to be protected from budget cuts due to the Council's projected budget gap and previous reliance on the use of reserves. |
| Base budget funded spend is less than the value of the grant resulting in partial delivery of the funding exchange. | Base budget spend will be monitored as part of the monthly financial monitoring with progress included in the savings monitoring appendix which is presented monthly to Execs and quarterly to Cabinet. |
| The HPG budget ceases or diminishes which results in a de facto redundancy situation for the homelessness service or a new revenue | A parallel review of reserves and retention of sufficient resources to manage this risk |

| | |
|---|--|
| pressure to retain this capacity through the general fund | |
|---|--|

Key Delivery Milestones

Include timescales for procurement, commissioning changes etc.

| Milestone | Timeline |
|---|------------------------------------|
| The saving will be delivered from 1 April 2023 when budgets are implemented | Monitoring will take place monthly |

Section D

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Consultation Required? | No |
|------------------------|----|

| | Start Date | End Date |
|--------------|------------|----------|
| Staff | | |
| Trade Unions | | |
| Public | | |
| Service User | | |
| Other | | |

Section E

Financial Implications and Investment Requirements

| Investment requirements – Revenue and Capital |
|---|
| There are no investment requirements with this proposal |

| Finance Comments – Will the proposal deliver the savings and within the agreed timescales? |
|--|
| Yes |