

**OFFICER DELEGATION SCHEME
RECORD OF DECISION**

TO BE UPLOADED TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 21 March 2024	Ref No: 2217
Responsible Officer: Stephanie Boyd (Integrated Commissioning Officer, Older People and Ageing Well Pillar)	
Type of Decision (please refer to MO Guidance):	
Key <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Freedom of Information Status: <i>(can the report go in the public domain)</i> Yes	
Title/Subject matter: Handyperson Service – Age UK Bury Grant Extension	
Budget/Strategy/Policy/Compliance:	
(i) Is the decision within an Approved Budget?	Yes
(ii) Is the decision in conflict with the council's policies, strategies, or relevant service plans?	No
(iii) Does the decision amend existing or raise new policy issues?	No
(iv) Is the decision significant and/or does it meet the £100,000 threshold for recording?	No
Equality Impact Assessment [Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]	N/A

Summary:

Age UK Bury currently delivers a small Handyperson service at a cost of £38k per year. It is currently funded via the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) up until 31 March 2024.

It is proposed that the DFG continues to fund the Age UK Bury Handyperson Service up until 31 March 2026 (£76k in total for the 24-month period).

The rationale for the service to continue with Age UK Bury via a grant up until 31 March 2026 is to afford Council Officers the opportunity to explore the development of a Home Improvement Agency that will support independent living.

Both STAR Procurement and legal services have confirmed that there are no issues with this approach.

Item for decision:

- It is recommended that the DFG continues to fund the Age UK Bury Handyperson Service up until 31 March 2026 (£76k in total for the 24-month period).

Handyperson Service:

The agreed funding will be used as a contribution towards the Handyperson Service which supports older Bury residents across the borough with jobs around the home.

Tasks are small, non-specialist and generally achievable within one hour, for example, fitting handrails and security locks; putting up shelves; curtain rails and wall decorations; assembling flat pack furniture; minor plumbing; painting and decorating work and changing light bulbs.

The service signposts to trusted organisations for larger or specialist pieces of work, for example, gas or electrics. They also signpost to other sources of support, for example, Older People's Staying Well Team, when needed.

In addition, the service has strong links to other Age UK Bury services, particularly the Home from Hospital Service to ensure timely and safe discharges.

The service aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- Improved health and wellbeing
- Improved independence
- Improved choice and control
- Improved dignity and respect
- A feeling of safety and security
- Prevention in the need for care and support
- Improved quality of life
- Reduction in inequalities


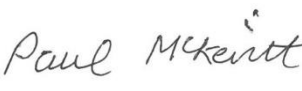
Recommendations:


It is recommended that the DFG continues to fund the Age UK Bury Handyperson Service up until 31 March 2026 (£76k in total for the 24-month period).

Next Steps:

- The Handyperson service grant arrangements are extended with Age UK Bury to 31 March 2026.
- The service is funded by the DFG fund as guidance allows this flexibility for services that promote independence for people that are disabled and require adaptations.
- Council Officers will explore the development of a Home Improvement Agency that will support independent living.

Wards affected: N/A**Consultations:** N/A**Scrutiny & Review Committee Interest:****Options considered:****Decision** *[with reasons]*

Decision made by:	Signature:	Date:
Executive Director – Health and Adult Care		27 March 2024
Section 151 Officer		27 March 2024
Members Consulted <i>[see note 1 below]</i>		

Cabinet Member		4 April 2024
Opposition Spokesperson	NA	

Notes

1. Where, in accordance with the requirements of the Officer Delegation Scheme, a Chief Officer consults with the appropriate Cabinet Member they must sign the form so as to confirm that they have been consulted and that they agree with the proposed action. The signature of the Opposition Spokesperson should be obtained if required, to confirm that he/she has been consulted. Please refer to the MO Guidance.
2. **This form must not be used for urgent decisions.**
3. Where there is any doubt, Corporate Directors should err on the side of caution and seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer.