

Chichester District Council

CABINET

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Energy Efficiency and thermal comfort works at Westward House Chichester – Post Project Evaluation

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Cabinet notes the positive outcomes of the project to improve the energy efficiency and thermal comfort at Westward House, Chichester as set out in the Post Project Evaluation Document attached at the appendix.**

3. Background

- 3.1 In late 2021 social housing providers, including local authorities, were offered the opportunity to bid for funding under the Government's LAD2 decarbon funding initiative, administered via the Greater South-East Energy Hub. Properties with an EPC rating of D or below were eligible for this scheme. 1 – 42 Westward House met this requirement.
- 3.2 Bidding opened in January 2022 and the council submitted a bid for works to 1 – 42 Westward House in order to improve the properties' energy efficiency and thermal comfort.
- 3.3 A maximum of £5,000 grant funding per property was permitted and this could represent up to two thirds of the cost of the works. The Council was required to provide the remainder of the funding.
- 3.4 This opportunity coincided with the need to replace the type of electric storage heaters at Westward House which had become obsolete and were no longer repairable.
- 3.5 The council was successful in its funding bid and was awarded £205,000. The sum of £135,000 was agreed by Council to meet the requirements under LAD2 to match fund the project.

4. Outcomes to be Achieved

- 4.1 The anticipated outcomes for the project are set out in the attached document section 3.2 and these were all met. A significant improvement in EPC ratings was achieved with 15 properties improving by one whole EPC rating and 26 properties improving by two.
- 4.2 High heat retention storage heaters, bathroom towel rails and LED lighting to kitchen and bathrooms were installed to all properties. Insulation and ventilation levels were all checked as part of the whole house assessment and these were found not to need further work.

5. Proposal

Not relevant to this report.

6. Alternatives Considered

- 6.1 Not relevant to this report

7. Resource and Legal Implications

- 7.1 The Council committed up to £135,00 to the scheme and received £205,000 from the LAD2 initiative.

8. Consultation

Not relevant to this report

9. Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 9.1 The work undertaken and outcomes achieved with this project have mitigated a financial and operational risk with the previous storage heaters. The project has also reduced the council's carbon impact and improved conditions for residents living in short stay housing.

10. Other Implications

| | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| Crime and Disorder | | X |
| Climate Change and Biodiversity This project will make a direct and positive impact on climate change | X | |
| Human Rights and Equality Impact | | X |
| Safeguarding and Early Help | | X |
| General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) | | X |
| Health and Wellbeing This project will make a positive impact on the residents' health and well being | X | |

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| Other (please specify) | | |
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11. Appendices

11.1 Post Project Evaluation Document : Energy Efficiency and Thermal Comfort Works at Westward House, Chichester.

12. Background Papers

12.1 None