

Chichester District Council

THE CABINET

8 December 2020

Next Steps Accommodation Programme

1. Contacts

Report Author:

Ivan Western – Housing Delivery Manager
Telephone: 01243521164 E-mail: iwestern@chichester.gov.uk

Cabinet Member:

Alan Sutton - Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Services
Telephone: E-mail: asutton@chichester.gov.uk

2. Recommendation:

- 2.1. **That the Next Steps Accommodation Programme grant funding of £60,508 received from Government is used to fund accommodation and support for rough sleepers as set out in para 5.1 of this report.**

3. Background

- 3.1. As part of the national response to Covid 19 the Government has urged all local housing authorities to take the necessary steps to prevent homeless people spending the night on the street. As a result of this, the number of those sleeping rough in Chichester is now lower than it has been for many years.
- 3.2. To support local authority efforts towards this objective significant amounts of government funding have been made available. The Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP) announced in the summer provided an opportunity for local authorities and their partners to bid for (a) revenue funding to provide interim accommodation during this financial year and (b) capital funding to secure additional long term accommodation for those being accommodated.
- 3.3. Working with Stonepillow, the District Council was successful in attracting funding from both elements of NSAP. Payment for the revenue element of £60,508 has now been paid to the Council and is ring fenced to the purposes set out in our bid. These are described in paragraphs 4 and 5 below. The capital elements, which will be used to secure new long term accommodation, will be paid directly to Stonepillow in due course.

4. Outcomes to be Achieved

- 4.1. The Next Steps Grant is intended to cover the cost of providing on-going interim accommodation and support for rough sleepers, preventing them returning to the streets and support them in moving on into longer term accommodation .

5. Proposals

- 5.1. The Next Steps Grant revenue grant is to be used as follows:
- £32,508 towards meeting the on-going temporary accommodation costs associated with keeping rough sleepers off the street during the Covid pandemic.
 - £28,000 is to be paid to Stonepillow to allow for the extension of their Housing First team.

6. Alternatives Considered

- 6.1. Not applicable

7. Resource and Legal Implications

- 7.1. The grant funds have been expressly paid to the Council by Government for the purposes of providing temporary accommodation and support for rough sleepers.
- 7.2. The Government realises that the current guidance requiring local authorities to accommodate rough sleepers during the Covid pandemic has generated additional expense for local authorities and so has provided additional funds towards expenses incurred.

8. Consultation

- 8.1. Discussions were held with MHCLG and Stonepillow prior to submitting the bid for this grant.
- 8.2. The bid for Next Steps funding was also discussed and supported by the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Housing and Communities Covid Recovery Group.

9. Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 9.1. The impact of the proposal will benefit both rough sleepers and the residents of the district. Additional resources will enable us to provide an effective response to the additional non- statutory responsibilities of the Council and will help us to deliver an efficient service.

10. Other Implications

Are there any implications for the following?		
	Yes	No
Crime and Disorder	Yes	
Climate Change and Biodiversity.		No
Human Rights and Equality Impact		No

Safeguarding and Early Help		No
General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)		No
Health and Wellbeing	Yes	
Other (please specify)		

11. Appendices

None

12. Background Papers

None