

Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: Monday 15 July 2024

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

Ward: All

1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 At its meeting on 18th April 2024 the Executive considered the attached report and approved the recommendations, subject to full Council agreement to the changes to the capital programme. The report was also scrutinised by the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee on 17th April 2024. The Council has been earmarked an indicative allocation of £13.9m towards housing schemes, subject to a compliant grant application, from the Department of Levelling up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) Round 3. The report summarises how the grant will be allocated to meet the Council's needs, whilst also being compliant within the grant agreement. In addition the report sets out how additional funding could be utilised if funding applied for beyond the earmarked allocation is secured through DLUHC.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

Council is recommended by the Executive to approve

- (1) The acceptance of DLUHC LAHF Round 3 funding estimated at up to £27.4m (made up of an indicative allocation of £13.9m and a request for a further £13.5m) for the schemes set out in paragraph 3.5 of the Executive's report, noting some schemes will require further reports; and authorise the Assistant Director of Legal Services to sign and execute all relevant legal documents arising in connection with acceptance of the LAHF.**
- (2) The addition of Manorfields to the capital programme at a value of £5.2m and approve the acceptance of DLUHC LAHF Round 3 funding estimated at up to £27.4m (made up of an indicative allocation of £13.9m and a request for a further £13.5m) for the schemes set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report, noting some schemes will require further reports.**

- (3) Approve an increase in the Council's capital programme budget of £638k towards the purchase of a four-bed settlement unit. This will be funded through £284k of LAHF grant, with the balance of £354k to be met from capital programme resources. Note that this purchase is required to meet the grant requirements, and none of the grant can be secured without meeting this DLUHC requirement. And subject to this, approve the purchase of this property, delegating any related decisions to the Director of Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing.**

1. Summary of Impact: See attached report

Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: Up to £27.4m grant funding, plus £888k from the existing OPR capital budget, and £354k of capital programme resources
2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost
3. Budget head/performance centre: Not Applicable
4. Total current budget for this head: Not Applicable
5. Source of funding: DLUHC, OPR capital budget, capital programme resources

Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 2
2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Council decisions are not subject to call-in

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable

Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Property will support the purchase of units as required by the grant conditions.

Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable

Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable

Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): Not Applicable

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

Non-Applicable Headings:	Impact on vulnerable adults and children/Policy/Finance/Personnel/Legal/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/Health & Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report