PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING GRANTS 2019/20 – QUARTER 4 TO 31 MARCH 2020

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The provision of major adaptations in the Private Sector (as required under the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006) is funded through the Scheme of Assistance. This assistance is contributing to the LHS 2017-2022 (Ref 329/17)

- People can access appropriate housing options and related services to meet their needs and enable them to live independently

People living in private sector homes can apply for grant funding to help adapt their home, in order that it is more accessible, and so that they can continue to live there, as their medical conditions or mobility needs change. Following assessment by an Occupational Therapist, various types of adaptations are approved for funding, including, but not limited to, level access showers, external access ramps, stairlifts and provision of ground floor sanitary facilities. It should be noted that grant funding can only support the minimum alterations required to meet the assessed need.

This means that people can continue to live in the place that they choose, and also in a safe environment that meets their needs. This is not only good for the health and wellbeing of the individual, but also saves the public purse by keeping people out of, or delaying admission to, expensive supported or acute health care accommodation.

2. CURRENT/FORECASTED POSITION

This appendix lists Grant Applications in respect of Adaptations which have been approved under delegated authority for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020 as well as presenting the year end outturn.

3. 2019/20 BUDGET ALLOCATION

3.1 The 2019/20 total base budget allocation is £420,441, split £350,000 capital (report 59/19 refers) and £70,441 revenue (per info from Finance – includes estimated costs for OT support).

Additional one-off monies were made available from Adult Services in the amount of £0.180million, giving a revised total budget allocation of £600,441. Due to the stage in the year, any unspent element was to be carried forward and fully utilised by 31 March 2021 (Report 22/20 refers). None of this contribution has been required in 19/20 and, following year end procedures, an updated figure of £0.128million will be carried forward for expenditure in 20/21. Some of these monies will be allocated to the funding of the interim Care & Repair provider, and estimated final costs will be reported to a later Committee.

4. GRANTS APPROVED

4.1 A summary of the grants approved covering the period 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020 is outlined below:-

Table 1 – 2019/20 Grants Approved

| Description | Number | Grant Approved (£) |
|--------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Applications | 24 | £80,945 |

In addition, 25 grants were approved in 2018/19 but were carried forward to be paid out during 2019/20, some of which have been subsequently withdrawn. The value of grants approved is detailed at section 5.2 below.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 <u>Summary Position</u>

The overall outturn position of Private Sector Housing Grants is summarised as below.

Table 2 – 2019/20 Summary Position

| Description | Total Budget (£) | Outturn (£) | Variance Adv / (Fav) (£) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Capital | 350,000 | 313,574 | (36,426) |
| Revenue | 70,441 | 65,003 | (5,438) |
| Additional from Adult Services | 180,000 | 0 | (180,000) |
| Total | 600,441 | 378,577 | (221,864) |

5.2 Capital

Table 3 – 2019/20 Capital Budget Monitoring

| Description | Total Budget (£) | Total Grant Approved (£) | Outturn (£) | Variance Adv / (Fav) (£) |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Improvements & Adaptations Grant | 350,000 | 409,902 | 313,574 | (36,426) |
| Total | 350,000 | 409,902 | 313,574 | (36,426) |

* For the purposes of this schedule, estimated outturn reflects the current estimated outturn, and may be subject to change during the course of the financial year.

The total grant approved sum (£409,902) detailed in the table above includes commitments of \pounds 120,255 for grants approved during 2018/19 but due to the timescales within which grants may be drawn down (1 year) these were carried over to be paid out during 2019/20.

Of the £409,902 (£120,255 + £289,647) total grants approved, £313,574 has been paid out to 31 March 2020. Any grants approved during 2019/20 but not paid out by 31 March 2020 (£96,328) will be carried forward and funded from the 2020/21 budget allocation. Note that the additional funding from Adult Services will be carried forward into 2020/21.

5.3 <u>Revenue</u>

The revenue spend to 31 March 2020 equates to £65,003 and the following table gives further information.

Table 4 – 2019/20 Revenue Budget Monitoring

| Description | Total Budget (£) | Outturn (£) | Variance Adv / (Fav) (£) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Staff Costs (incl. travel) | 44,859 | 40,186 | (4,673) |
| Supplies & Services | 582 | (183) | (765) |
| Third Party Payments: | | | |
| Occupational Therapist | 25,000 | 25,000 | 0 |
| Interim Care & Repair Provider | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 70,441 | 65,003 | (5,438) |

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