

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 23 FEBRUARY 2021**

**PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING GRANTS 2020/21 – QUARTER 3 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**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 October 2020 to 31 December 2020 as well as presenting the estimated year end outturn.

**3. 2020/21 BUDGET ALLOCATION**

The 2020/21 total base budget allocation is £417,340, split £350,000 capital (report 84/20 refers) and £67,340 revenue (per info from Finance – includes estimated costs for OT support).

Additional one-off monies were made available during 19/20 from Adult Services in the revised amount of £0.128million, which has been carried forward in full (report 22/20 refers), giving a revised total budget allocation of £545,340. Allocation of these monies will be detailed in future reports to Committee.

**4. GRANTS APPROVED**

- 4.1 A summary of the grants approved covering the period 1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020 is outlined below. It should be noted that COVID 19 restrictions have had a significant and continuing effect on progress during this period. Although the demand for grant assistance is continuing, the ongoing restrictions have caused a considerable backlog of applications to be progressed through AHSCP:-

**Table 1 – 2020/21 Grants Approved**

Description	Number	Grant Approved (£)
<b>Applications</b>	5	£23,069

In addition, 25 grants were approved in 2019/20 but were carried forward to be paid out during 2020/21 (some of which have since been withdrawn). The value of grants approved is detailed at section 5.2 below.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

### 5.1 Summary Position

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

**Table 2 – 2020/21 Summary Position**

Description	Total Budget (£)	Estimated Outturn (£)	Variance Adv / (Fav) (£)
<b>Capital</b>	350,000	150,000	(200,000)
<b>Revenue</b>	67,340	66,450	(890)
<b>Additional from Adult Services</b>	128,000	48,000	(80,000)
<b>Total</b>	545,340	264,450	(280,890)

### 5.2 Capital

**Table 3 – 2020/21 Capital Budget Monitoring**

Description	Total Budget (£)	Total Grant Approved (£)	Estimated* Outturn (£)	Variance Adv / (Fav) (£)
Improvements & Adaptations Grant	350,000	172,725	150,000	(200,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>172,725</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>(200,000)</b>

\* The impact of Covid-19 on the progress of adaptation works within vulnerable households may significantly alter the estimated outturn, and will be reported to future Committees.

The total grant approved sum (£172,725) detailed in the table above includes commitments of £88,410 for grants approved during 2019/20 but due to the timescales within which grants may be drawn down (1 year) these were carried over to be paid out during 2020/21.

Of the £172,725 (£84,315 + £88,410) total grants approved, £58,651 has been paid out to 31 December 2020. Any grants approved during 2020/21 but not paid out by 31 March 2021 will be carried forward and funded from the 2021/22 budget allocation.

### 5.3 Revenue

The revenue spend to 31 December 2020 equates to £27,751 and the following table gives further information.

**Table 4 – 2020/21 Revenue Budget Monitoring**

Description	Total Budget (£)	Estimated Outturn (£)	Variance Adv / (Fav) (£)
Staff Costs (incl. travel)	41,758	40,450	(1,308)
Supplies & Services	582	1000	418
Third Party Payments:			
• Occupational Therapist	25,000	25,000	0

• Interim Care & Repair Provider*	128,000	48,000	(80,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>195,340</b>	<b>114,450</b>	<b>(80,890)</b>

\*Any update to the costs associated with the Interim Care & Repair Provider will be reported to a future Committee and will likely be funded from the £128,000 Adult Services monies

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