



## OFFICER DECISION RECORD

This form should be used to record Executive decisions taken by Officers

<b>Decision Ref. No:</b>			
<b>Service Area:</b>	Council Wide	<b>Date:</b>	05.05.2022
<b>Contact Name:</b>	Graham Farrant	<b>Tel No:</b>	
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:Graham.Farrant@bcpcouncil.gov.uk">Graham.Farrant@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</a>		
<b>Subject:</b>	Acceptance of the Domestic Abuse grant for 2022/23		
<b>Decision taken:</b>			
<p>This is a decision taken by the Chief Executive of BCP Council under Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions), Delegations to Chief Officers, line 68, in the revised Constitution, to accept the £752,334 allocated by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).</p> <p>The funding is to provide support between April 2022 and March 2023. The funding is to be allocated in line with the funding guidance in consultation with the Chief Operations Officer and relevant Service Directors.</p>			
<b>Reasons for the decision:</b>			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To accept the Domestic Abuse Grant allocated to BCP Council by DLUHC in line with the Council's Financial Regulations.</li><li>2. To recognise the urgency of accepting the funding allocation and enable delivery to residents in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.</li></ol>			
<b>Background:</b>			
<p>This funding stream is allocated to the Council, in common with all top tier Local Authorities in England, in relation to its duties under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 for the provision of accommodation based support to victims of domestic abuse and their children, in accordance with Grant Determination Number 31/6070 under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. There is no requirement for match funding from the Council.</p>			
<b>Consultations undertaken:</b>			
<p>The decision has been taken following consultation with the Chief Operations Officer, Director of Law and Governance/Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer.</p>			
<b>Finance and Resourcing Implications:</b>			
<b>Name:</b>	Adam Richens	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Signature (of Chief Finance Officer):</b>	Redacted - Signature		

**Legal Implications:**

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places new statutory duties on Tier 1 Local Authorities relating to the provision of support for victims of domestic abuse and their children within safe accommodation as set out in Part 4 of the Act.

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has determined under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 to pay defined amounts to relevant local authorities to cover the cost of this new statutory obligation. According to the grant determination BCP will receive £752,334 for the period from 1 April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

Local authorities receiving the above funding are required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with DLUHC. The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding is to formalise the working relationship and expectations relating to the payment. There is nothing onerous in the MoU and no financial commitment from the Council is required. BCP may sign and send this MoU to DLUHC to progress the scheme envisaged under the new legislation.

In accordance with the financial regulations the decision to accept this money would ordinarily be required to be taken by Cabinet. Pursuant to the provisions set out in Part 3 of the Constitution the Chief Executive can exercise urgent powers to discharge any function and/or deliver any service, provided that there is prior consultation with the Monitoring Officer, the Executive member or Chair of an appropriate Committee as they consider is appropriate in the time available. Part 4 of the Constitution further provides that in respect of an urgent key decision agreement of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board that the taking of the decision cannot be reasonably deferred must be sought. Any action taken must be reported to the next meeting of the Cabinet and Full Council.

**Name: Susan Zeiss**

**Date:**

Redacted - Signature

**Signature (of Monitoring Officer):**

**Risk Assessment:**

1. The key risk in relation to this decision is that failure to accept the Grant in a timely manner might impact adversely on the Council's ability to deliver support to victims of domestic abuse and their children.

**Name: Mike Batty**

**Date: 05.05.22**

**Signature (of Officer Completing Assessment):**

**Impact Assessments:**

The Domestic Abuse grant has significant positive impacts for residents within Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, providing those who have been impacted by domestic abuse, who are overwhelmingly women and children, with appropriate support.

**Information for publication****Background Papers**

The Council received £750,257 from this grant in 2021/22. Full details of the grant allocations and the Memorandum of Understanding are set out in the files attached.

Any declaration of interest by the Officer responsible for the decision

Nature of Interest

n/a

n/a

**Note:** No Officer having an personal financial interest in any matter should take a decision on that matter. Other interests of a non-disqualifying matter should be recorded here.

Any conflict of interest declared by a Cabinet Member who is consulted by the Officer taking the decision

Name of Cabinet Member

Nature of interest

Details of any dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer

n/a

**Decision taken by: (print name and designation)**

**Graham Farrant - Chief Executive**

**Signature:**

Redacted - Signature

**Date of Decision:**

**Date Decision Effective:**

**Date of Publication of record of decision: (to be inserted by Democratic Services)**