

Cheltenham Borough Council

Cabinet Member Decision

Decision to award a small grant to Open Door as part of DLUHC Rough Sleeper Move-On & Prevention Grant Funding

07.11.23

Accountable member:

Councillor Victoria Atherstone, Cabinet Member for Housing

Accountable officer:

Martin Stacy, Housing Strategy & Partnerships Manager

Ward(s) affected:

Any ward could be affected (All Wards)

Key Decision: No

Exempt Decision: No

Decision:

To award a small grant of £5,000 to Open Door as part of Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) Rough Sleeper Move-on & Prevention Grant Funding. This will cover the period to 31st March 2024.

Reasons for the decision:

DLUHC has offered Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC) £40,059 of funding for 2023/24, in recognition of ongoing pressures being experienced by CBC to end rough sleeping within the Borough. The Officer Decision Notice to accept this funding was agreed on 7th November 2023 which details how we intend to allocate this funding (subject to the relevant approvals). Please see link to the decision here:

<https://democracy.cheltenham.gov.uk/DecisionDetails.aspx?ID=3039>

The purpose of this grant to Open Door will be to support to smaller faith or community sector providers to provide alternative support and accommodation to rough sleepers with barriers to accessing services. This grant will seek to strengthen this service further by funding a specialist independent professional to visit and support the health and wellbeing of guests and staff/volunteers. This will include, for example, offering mindfulness somatic body-based psychological support to alleviate anxiety, stress and trauma. Our aim will be to enhance the provision of trauma informed support and promote a move towards a Psychologically Informed Environment (PIE). The estimated spend for this project is £5,000. This funding must be spent by the end of March 2024. Any underspend will need to be returned in full to DLUHC.

Alternative options:

None considered. This is a unique opportunity to accept a one-off grant funding award that will conclude at the end of March 2024. The spending plan for additional funding has been co-produced with DLUHC and local key stakeholders and meets the Government's key commitments to work creatively to end rough sleeping within this Parliamentary term.

Consultation and feedback:

These plans have been created in close consultation with DLUHC's Rough Sleeping Adviser. The creation of these plans has also been facilitated by key officers within Cheltenham's Housing Options Service, CBC's Executive Director for Finance and Assets and CCP.

Background information:

Officer Decision – [CBC agreement to accept DLUHC funding \(pot 2\)](#)

The Government's rough sleeping strategy published in September 2022- ['Ending rough sleeping for good'](#)

The Government's [Rough Sleeping Initiative \(RSI\) Funding 2022-2025](#)

Cheltenham Borough Council's [Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023-2028](#)

Interests declared:

None.

Signed:

Date: