

Decision Record

Decision taken by the Deputy Leader on 26 September 2014

Addition of Highway Improvement Schemes to the Capital Programme

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr Alan Cockburn Deputy Leader
Date of Decision	26/09/2014

Decision Taken

That:

1. £155,000 of ring-fenced Public Health England capital grant for drug and alcohol recovery is added to the capital programme for Localities and Community Safety
2. A capital grant of £155,000 is paid to ESH Works Ltd for the Warwickshire Peer Led Residential Recovery Housing

Reasons for Decisions

The Constitution of the Council delegates authority to Portfolio Holders to make certain decisions. This includes the ability of the Deputy Leader to make additions to the Capital Programme of sums up to £1.5m.

This decision is required to enable two highway improvement schemes to progress.

Background Information

There are currently no residential clean houses, detox units or rehabilitation facilities in Warwickshire. This facility will help the cost effectiveness of Warwickshire's treatment services by reducing the number of out of county placements and dovetails with the existing community treatment.

The current government initiative to address addiction in the UK is to move away from the ever increasing and costly substitute medication approach, 'maintenance', and move clients towards 'recovery' using peer led support from people who have recovered from their addiction.

As part of this initiative Public Health England is actively supporting peer led recovery including the building of recovery communities. ESH Works already provide ongoing peer led support for individuals. An integral part of this service initiative in Warwickshire is the provision of a clean house including peer led mentoring support.

An individual's sustained recovery depends on building 'recovery capital'; this includes self-esteem, social skills, physical and mental health. Gaining employment and contributing again to society is essential in helping to re-build self-esteem.

The initiative at the heart of our clean house proposal is to assist and support clients to establish their own business. We will identify skills and realistic aspirations in a safe and monitored environment and where feasible we will support and guide clients through the process to establish their own small businesses, either self-employed or by establishing CICs/social enterprises.

The grant will greatly assist the purchase of Warwickshire's first dry-house. A smaller grant has already been awarded to ESH Works Ltd by HSBC, with these grants being augmented by a mortgage to enable purchase of the property.

Funding

Warwickshire County Council supported ESH works in their submission of a bid for ring fenced capital funding from Public Health England (PHE) for Warwickshire Peer led recovery Housing.

This bid was successful and £155,000 of capital funding has been paid to WCC as sponsor of the project, with the caveat that this is passed on to ESH Works Ltd.

WCC will transfer funding to ESH Works Ltd in the form of a grant. Monitoring of associated activity will be undertaken by Commissioners as part of regular contract performance reviews.

Proposal

A Capital Grant of £155,000 is paid to ESH Works Ltd to enable the purchase of a peer led dry house. Residential Recovery Housing Project as outlined in the Grant Agreement between Public Health England and Warwickshire County Council.

Activity to purchase the property and its subsequent use will be monitored by drug and alcohol service commissioners and reported through the Drugs & Alcohol Management group (DAMG).

Financial Implications

Report Author	Will Johnston
Head of Service	Phil Evans
Strategic Director	Monica Fogarty
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Alan Cockburn

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt? (State the category of exempt information)	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and	No

policy framework?

List of Reports considered

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/3027/Committee/551/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

List of Background Papers - please include a contact for access to background papers

None

Members and officers consulted or informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Alan Cockburn
All Strategic Directors
Legal – Alison Hallworth, Vicky Newbold, Jane Pollard
Finance – Liz Firmstone
Equality – Minakshee Patel
Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Corporate Services OSC – party spokes:

Councillors John Appleton, June Tandy, Alan Webb and Nicola Davies