

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2019/2020 REPORT NO.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

OPERATIONAL DECISION OF:

Executive Director
Resources

Agenda – Part:1

KD Num: 4883

Subject: Application for Council to enter into grant agreement with the Greater London Authority in relation to the Affordable Homes Programme 2016-2021 - Mayor's Care and Support Specialised Housing Fund

Wards: All

Contact officer and telephone number:

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks permission for the Council to enter into contract with the Greater London Authority (GLA) for the Affordable Homes Programme 2016-21 Mayors Care & Support Specialised Housing Fund.
- 1.2 The Council is currently delivering a number of large housing schemes through the GLA's Affordable Homes Programmes and have been successful in securing funding under the Mayors Care & Support Specialised Housing Fund to deliver extra care housing schemes in the borough.
- 1.3 To secure this funding the Council will need to enter into a grant agreement with the GLA. This will allow the Council to draw down the grant funding from the GLA to deliver affordable housing.

Entry into this Grant Funding Agreement will not commit the Council to any expenditure or incur any penalties, however it will enable the Council to obtain any additional funding that may be secured under this programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Executive Director Resources in consultation with Executive Director of Place and the Cabinet Member for Housing:

- 2.1 Authorises entering into the grant agreement with GLA on behalf of the Council to draw down funding secured under the Affordable Housing Programme 2016-21, Mayors Care and Support Specialised Housing Fund, on the terms set out in the Grant Funding Agreement attached at Appendix A.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In 2013 the Council's application to obtain Investment Partnership Status with the GLA was successful.

Obtaining this status allowed the Council to submit bids for different funding programmes the GLA make available.

We have just been successful in our bid for £9.4m of funding under the Mayors Care and Support Specialised Housing Fund 2016-21. In order for the Council to receive this funding, we will need to enter into a grant agreement with the GLA.

There is opportunity to bid for further grant under this programme through continuous market engagement as and when eligible schemes are identified by the Council.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Failure to sign the agreement will result in a loss of grant and affordable housing for the borough.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Authorising the Council to enter into the agreement with the GLA will enable the council to draw down money as the required milestones are achieved.

6. COMMENTS FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS

6.1 Financial Implications

The Council has secured £9.4m of grant from the GLA for the development of an extra care home. The project has been given approval subject to successfully obtaining GLA grant. Should the council not receive the £9.4m from the GLA then the development will no longer be financially viable and will not have approval to proceed.

6.2 Legal Implications

6.2.1 The Council has the general power of competence under Section (1) of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that individuals may generally do provided it is not prohibited by legislation. Furthermore, Section 111 of the Local Government Act permits Local Authorities to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is incidental to the discharge of its functions.

6.2.2 The provisions of Section 9 of the Housing Act empowers the Council to provide housing accommodation as part of its functions.

6.2.3 The GLA has designed the Affordable Homes Programme 2016-21 Mayors Care & Support Specialised Housing Fund to be State Aid compliant but providers have a responsibility to ensure they are not over compensated from the point of view of State Aid rules.

6.2.4 The Council must comply with the terms of any agreement entered into with the GLA arising from this report.

6.2.5 The council must comply with the terms of its constitution and adhere to the Contract Procedure Rules (CPR) in the event of any related procurement.

*Provided by LA on 18.03.19 based on the report provided to
Legal Services on 12.03.19*

6.3 Property Implications

There are none.

7. KEY RISKS

There are no risks associated with the Council entering into contract with the GLA. However, should the Council fail to deliver on these projects within the programme delivery dates, the GLA could withdraw the funding.

8. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES – CREATING A LIFETIME OF OPPORTUNITIES IN ENFIELD

8.1 Good homes in well-connected neighbourhoods

Supporting development of new housing will enable the Council to increase the portfolio and quality of stock it has to discharge its statutory housing responsibility to households that live in the Borough.

8.2 Sustain strong and healthy communities

Any increase in the provision of housing within the Borough is likely to make a positive contribution to strengthening communities.

8.3 Build our local economy to create a thriving place

Developing good quality housing in areas where people desire to live will help to create and maintain strong sustainable communities.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

The submission of this application will not of itself lead to any equalities impact implications. However by entering into contract with the GLA will show confidence in the Council and will lead to the Council being able to bid for any future funding to deliver affordable housing, this in turn will have a positive impact for people less able to afford to provide their own housing solutions within the Borough.

10. PERFORMANCE AND DATA IMPLICATIONS

There are none.

11. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Entering into a grant agreement in and of itself does not have any public health implications. However, this is not to say that housing is fundamental to health as evidenced by that those that are homeless have a life-expectancy of approximately 30 years less than the general population.

Background Papers