Decision Number: || (2017 | 16)

Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Subject: Pilot energy efficiency project for permanently-occupied mobile homes.

to most

Details of Decision taken: To approve £100,000 from S106 affordable housing planning gains to undertake a pilot project to improve heating systems and thermal efficiency of permanently-occupied mobile homes occupied by older people with the aim of reducing fuel poverty and contributing to a wide-range of housing and health outcomes.

Reason for Decision: There is a high level of fuel poverty amongst older mobile home occupiers, mainly due to expensive fuel (LPG and oil) and poor thermal efficiency of mobile homes. There is a high level of excess winter mortality amongst older people in the Sevenoaks District and this project is intended to tackle the issue. This project will enable the installation of new and more efficient heating systems as well as improved structural thermal efficiency of the homes themselves. This will also help to extend the life of the mobile homes and reduce the need for social and supported housing. The end result of works will be more efficient homes and thermal comfort. This will also help contribute to the District's CO2 reduction targets as set out in the adopted policy: Climate Local Sevenoaks.

For the first time, national Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding has been opened up to mobile homes and this presents a good opportunity to help some of our most vulnerable residents. By contributing a sum of £100,000, the District Council will be able to bring in additional and significant external funding via ECO to help older people, thereby multiplying the initial investment. This project ties in with key priorities set out in the District Council's Housing Strategy, which was approved at Full Council in July 2017. The project also ties in with a wide-range of health strategy – both at local and national level.

All Documents considered:

Housing Strategy 2017; Climate Local Sevenoaks; Community Plan; Health Inequalities Action Plan.

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision: N/A

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Financial implications: Funding of £100,000 would be from S106 affordable housing planning gains and additional external grant would be secured as a result.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement: The project contractor has been subject to due diligence checks through the Kent 'Warm Homes' scheme headed by KCC. There are no legal implications for the District Council.

Equality Impacts: This project aims to support older and vulnerable people who are also typically on low incomes and fuel poor. In that respect, this aims to equalise housing and health outcomes and is a positive intervention.

Local Member (s), other Portfolio Holders and/or Directors/Heads of Service Consulted

Cllr Michelle Lowe, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health Cllr Robert Piper, Portfolio Holder for Planning

Details of any conflicts of interest

a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker

None

b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict

None

Decision taken by:	Cllr Michelle Lowe, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Health Cllr Robert Piper, Portfolio Holder for Planning
Signed by Portfolio Holder	

When completed a copy of this record must be sent to the Democratic Services

Section by e-mail and a signed copy by internal mail

(For Democratic Services use)

Decision Number: 11 (2017/18)

Date of Decision	14.09.17.
Record made by:	
Date of record:	15.09.17.