

**EXETER CITY COUNCIL
RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY OFFICER IN CONSULTATION WITH PORTFOLIO
HOLDER**

Key Decision:

TITLE: Urgent matter under the Council's Finance Regulations, to create a budget for expenditure to be incurred as part of the Government's and Council's work to address rough sleeping

DECISION MADE BY: Director City Development, Housing & Supporting People

IN CONSULTATION WITH Council Leader

DECISION:

As a urgent matter under the Council's Finance Regulations, to create a budget for expenditure to be incurred as part of the Government's and Council's work to address rough sleeping, in particularly, as a response to the greater risk to people experiencing homelessness as a result of the current pandemic.

The council has successfully bid for MHCLG Capital funds of £1.8m and contributed unringfenced S106 funding of £1.54m towards the purchase of 29 units of affordable housing. There is a further revenue grant of £433k to provide support to new residents once the council successfully purchases and brings the properties back into use. There is therefore no impact on the council's General Fund Balance.

This decision will be reported to the next meeting of Executive and Council.

REASON FOR DECISION

Although the Council has the funds available via Government grant and S106 funding, there is not currently a budget for this approved by Council as this funding has been made available to Council late last year in response to the Covid pandemic.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

It would be possible to take the decision to Executive and Council but there is an urgent need to procure properties as part of the council's work to respond to the needs of people experiencing homelessness which is exacerbated by the pandemic and the government's prioritisation of offering accommodation to those who are rough sleeping, vulnerably housed or in need of temporary accommodation as a result of the pandemic, for example, people experiencing domestic violence or abuse.

PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:

DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:

1. Exeter City Council grant applications to MHCLG
2. Delegated Decision forms related to the council's contribution of S106 funding

DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: N/A

In the case where a key decision has been taken under delegated powers, the attention of Members is drawn to the Scrutiny Procedure Rules within the Constitution, and in particular section 15 entitled Call in.

Decision Number	Date of Decision Made
	13 January 2021