

23 November 2017



SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISIONS NOTICE

WEEK ENDING 24 NOVEMBER 2017

**DECISIONS BY THE CABINET
CALL IN DEADLINE 5.00 PM ON 30 NOVEMBER 2017**

No decisions were taken by Cabinet this week.

**DECISIONS BY INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBERS
CALL IN DEADLINE 5.00 PM ON 30 NOVEMBER 2017**

The following decisions have been taken by a Cabinet Member and will come into effect on 1 December 2017 unless the call-in procedure is activated:

Title: Approval of recommendation from the Enabling Communities Exemplar Grant Panel Meeting on 15 November 2017

Decisions Made by Cabinet Member with responsibility for Customers, Communities & Leisure: That the following applications in respect of applications for Enabling Communities Exemplar Programme be determined as follows:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter and St Paul – Approved - £10,000 – Conditional upon the applicant submitting copies of three quotations for the works, to provide further details and confirmation for the match-funding arrangements and to commit to undertaking promotion of the project once complete, acknowledging the funding from Suffolk Coastal District Council.

St Andrews Church (Old Felixstowe Parish) – Approved - £5,000 – Conditional upon the applicant submitting copy of a maintenance plan / statement, confirmation of the match funding and to commit to undertaking promotion of the project once complete, acknowledging the funding from Suffolk Coastal District Council.

Reason for Decision: The agreed allocations of grant aid are the most effective and efficient use of the funds available and are in accordance with the criteria of the Enabling Communities Exemplar Programme.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: To not award the grant.

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: None.

Any Dispensation Granted: None.

Title: Approval of Discretionary House Renovation Grant

Decision Made by Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing

To authorise the Head of Housing to approve a discretionary House Renovation Grant for a maximum of £30,000 for works to adapt a property for the benefit of the disabled owner, where the costs exceed the maximum grant payable by a Disabled Facilities Grant. This decision is made in accordance with the Private Sector Renewal Strategy.

Reason for Decision: An enquiry for a House Renovation Grant (in addition to an enquiry for a mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant) has been made for works to adapt a two storey house for the benefit of the disabled owner.

The property is occupied by the disabled owner and her husband and their teenage child. The disabled person has significant health and mobility problems and uses a wheelchair. An Occupational Therapist who has recommended that adaptations are needed to the property to provide access to a living room, a bedroom, a shower room and the property itself. It is proposed to alter the existing living room to provide the accessible bedroom and shower room and the living room is to be provided in a new extension built onto the rear of the property. The cost of the works is likely to be in the region of £50,000.

The maximum grant payable for the Disabled Facilities Grant is £30,000 leaving a shortfall of £20,000. Both the Disabled Facilities Grant and the House Renovation Grant are means tested and it has been established that the applicant will have to make a contribution of just over £1400.00 towards the cost of the works.

The undertaking of the works will enable the disabled person and her family to remain in the property for the foreseeable future and for the family to continue caring for her in a safe environment.

Should the property be sold at any time in the next 30 years the full amount of the House Renovation Grant will become repayable to the Council.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: A number of alternative options were considered. First and foremost the option of moving to more suitable accommodation, for example a bungalow, was looked at. It was quickly established however that this was not economically feasible even if a suitable property could be found in the locality. As the family are settled in the area with the child at a local school and the partner also working locally it is reasonable for them to remain in the local area. There is also a family member living in the area who can offer support if needed.

Options for re-arranging the use of the existing rooms and altering the layout of the property, including the provision of a through floor lift to provide access to the first floor were also considered at length but it was not possible to find an arrangement that would meet the needs of the disabled person and accommodate other members of her family satisfactorily.

The Council could refuse to approve the grant in which case the works would not proceed. It is considered that in these circumstances there is a high likelihood of the disabled person or her partner coming to harm as they try and live their lives in a property not suitable for her needs.

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: None.

Any Dispensation Granted: None.

**DECISIONS BY INDIVIDUAL AUTHORISED OFFICERS
IN RESPECT OF KEY DECISIONS
CALL IN DEADLINE 5.00 PM ON 30 NOVEMBER 2017**

No decisions were taken by individual authorised officers this week.

If you have a query or wish to request that a proposed decision is called in, please contact the Democratic Services Section by telephone on 01394 444426 or by email to democratic.services.scdc@eastsoffolk.gov.uk