

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Policy & Resources
Date:	8 July 2021
Title:	Members Devolved Budgets
Report From:	Chief Executive

Contact name: Barbara Beardwell

Tel: 03707 793751

Email: barbara.beardwell@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to redirect delegated authority regarding approval of awards under the Members Devolved Budget Scheme from the Director of Transformation and Governance to the Head of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer.

Recommendation

- 2 That the Head of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to approve the payment of appropriate funds from individual budgets allocated to Members under the Members Devolved Budget Scheme, on receipt of an appropriate recommendation from the relevant Member.

Contextual Information

- 3 For legal reasons authority to make the final decision on the award of a grant under the Members Devolved Budget Scheme is currently delegated to the Director of Transformation and Governance. It is, however, clearly established that individual Members are responsible for checking the eligibility of applicants and compliance with the Protocol for the Governance of the Members Devolved Budget Scheme before recommending grants for approval.
- 4 The Director of Transformation and Governance has stepped down from this role in order to focus entirely on his role in Adults' Health and Care, and services previously within Transformation and Governance have been rehomed within the management structure of the County Council.

- 5 The processing of grants made under the Members Devolved Budget Scheme is undertaken by officers within Democratic and Member Services, under the responsibility of the Head of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer. It is therefore considered appropriate that in future delegated authority to make the final decision on the award of a grant under the Members Devolved Budget Scheme be delegated to the Head of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because of changes within the management of the County Council.

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Members Devolved Budgets – Updated Protocol (EMPR)	9 March 2021
Member's Devolved Budgets-updated Protocol	9 April 2015
Member's Devolved Budget Update	28 June 2013
Devolved Budgets to Members (Full Council)	24 May 2007
Devolved Budgets to Members (Cabinet)	21 May 2007
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
N/A	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

No equality impacts have been identified.