

RECORD OF INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISION MADE BY A CABINET MEMBER

Decision Maker	Decision Type	Date
Cllr A Shah Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economic and Social Reform	Key Decision	15.10.2021

Household Support Grant Funding Allocation Decision

To spend the full £2,419,369.23 DWP allocation for Oldham of the Household Support Grant over the Winter Period to support vulnerable households including families with and without children and individuals. This includes supporting children and young people with a food offer over school holiday periods, help for households with fuel costs and digital inclusion support to Oldham residents.

Exempt/Confidential Report	No	
Key Decision	Yes	Exemption from publication on the Forward Plan and call in in accordance with Rule 14 has been approved by the Chair of the Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Reasons for the decision(s)

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) allocated an indicative £2,419,369.23 of funding to the Council to deliver a Household Support Grant scheme covering the period 6 October 2021 to 31 March 2022.

The DWP funds support the delivery of food and fuel support and other essential items to vulnerable families with children and other vulnerable individuals with at least 50% of the funding to be issued to families with children. The Council needs to confirm delivery intentions to the DWP by 29 October 2021.

Options/Alternatives considered

Options for how the funding could have been used are presented below:

Option 1

Table: Options for Spend	
Household Support Grant Funding	
Food support for children and young people over the school holidays	£1,789,878
Support with the costs of fuel/boiler replacement and repair via the Warm Homes team	£100,000
Funds to support the provision of essential items through the Local Welfare Provision scheme	£150,000
Emergency housing costs fund	£50,000
Digital lending and gifting programme	£100,000
Administration costs	£50,491.23
Enlisting support, in partnership with funding administered by Action Together, from the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector to provide support in the following areas	£179,000
Warm clothing/shoes for individuals and families with and without children (including provision for school uniform items)	
Support for those with no recourse to public funds	
Support with essential items for the elderly over winter	
Total	£2,419,369.23

Option 2 The Council could choose not to deliver a package of support to vulnerable residents over the Winter period. As the DWP funding is ringfenced, this would mean returning the funding to the Government

Conflict of Interest declared No



CLlr A Shah Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economic and Social Reform

In consultation with



Anne Ryans Director of Finance



Paul Entwistle Director of Legal Services

Decision made pursuant to:

- a) **Delegation to Cabinet Member under the Council's scheme of delegation. Contract £100,000 - £400,000 and Key decisions.**