

GRANT POLICY REVIEW

Report of the Director and Company Secretary

1. SUMMARY

This report presents the outcome of a review of Derby Homes Grant Policy.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the deletion of the existing Grant Policy and redirect £10k from the original budget into the Community Initiatives budget
- 2.2 To note that a new Grant Policy will be brought to a future meeting of this Committee.

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 This report concludes the outcome of a review of the existing Grant Policy. Derby Homes has offered small grants to groups for community projects through an application system. The grants have historically been assessed by the Chief Executive (CEO) with input from the Community Initiatives team. A CEO budget of £20k financed these grants.
- 3.2 Applications made for the grants has been sporadic, and the way in which the grants have been assessed and issued has involved some inconsistency. There has also been little feedback or evaluation as to the impact made by the grants on Derby Homes tenants.
- 3.3 In addition to this, Derby Homes relies on attracting external funding to function core activities within its own Community Initiatives Team; in contrast these projects do directly relate to the business plan and are evaluated against impact on our tenants.
- 3.4 Therefore, the existing Grant Policy conflicts with the efforts being made to secure external funding, the strategic use of Derby Homes funds and evaluation of impact on tenants.
- 3.5 The recommendation is therefore to close down the existing Grant Policy, and redirect £10k from the original CEO budget into the Community Initiatives budget. This will enhance the work of the section, particularly the Junior Wardens scheme. The Community Initiatives team will continue to secure external funding to enhance its core activities. The remaining £10k represents a business transformation saving as part of the non core review. A new Grant Policy will need to be developed which will restrict grants solely to activities directly related to our core purpose of housing services.

4. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The recommendation represents a saving of £10k whilst also improving core services that link directly to the business plan.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report:

Consultation
Legal and Confidentiality
Council
Personnel
Policy Review
Environmental
Equalities Impact Assessment
Health & Safety
Risk

If Board Members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact:

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Background Information: None

Supporting Information: None