

Grant Bid for Single Homeless Funding

SUMMARY

- 1.1 In August 2014 an opportunity arose to submit grant funding bids to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to support single homeless services, in the city and the county.
- 1.2 Homeless services officers from the City and District Councils in Derbyshire submitted a joint grant bid for £250,000 through their collaboration via the homeless services officer group. Derby City Council was designated the lead local authority.
- 1.3 The bid to support single homeless people consisted of four strands covering, employment, health, benefit sanctions and rough sleeping. Further details about the projects are contained in the supporting information section.
- 1.4 The joint bid for grant funding has been successful and now requires retrospective approval to bid and additional approval to proceed to the implementation stage.
- 1.5 The projects identified for funding will be monitored by Homeless Link, which is a national membership charity working with organisations to eradicate homelessness. Homeless Link will conduct this monitoring on behalf of DCLG.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To retrospectively approve the submission of the Single Homelessness grant bid to DCLG.
- 2.2 To approve the acceptance of the offer of £250,000 of grant funding from DCLG.
- 2.3 To note the Interim Strategic Director of AHH in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Finance and Welfare will seek further approvals from Cabinet to allocate the funding to specific organisations and projects as prescribed in the bid.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The success of the bid has seen Derby City Council receive the first instalment of

grant funding from DCLG. This instalment is for a sum of £93,000 with the balance being due six months later.

- 3.2 The grant funding secured within this application is much needed for this customer group, as the proposed projects will benefit all areas in Derby and Derbyshire either directly or indirectly.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 In August 2014 Derby City Council submitted a bid in conjunction with the eight Borough and District Councils in Derbyshire specifically aimed at assisting single homeless people across these Local Authority areas. The bid was segregated into 4 specific projects with the following commentary providing insight into each of the identified areas for the bid.

- 4.2 Ambition Project covering NEDDC, Chesterfield, Bolsover and parts of Derbyshire Dales

The project will ensure the housing needs of young people are linked into the Sheffield City Region, Local Enterprise Partnership funded North Derbyshire Ambition and Talent Match projects. These schemes are employment support schemes working intensively on a 1:1 and group basis with 18 -24 year olds. Ambition is a partnership scheme with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for those on Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) (3 months plus) whereas Talent Match will work with those who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) (12 months plus) including people with mild to moderate learning disabilities, low level mental health, homeless and care leavers. The scheme will also work with 24 – 35 year olds due to the local challenges in accommodating this group.

- 4.3 Healthy Futures

The Project will deliver sustainable solutions to high impact users and in-patients who are homeless from Chesterfield Royal Hospital:

- Provide advice, advocacy and practical interventions to those most vulnerable who use health services.
- Working alongside hospital and community based staff to prevent bed blocking when a homeless individual cannot be safely discharged
- Intensively supporting high impact users the project aims to reduce inappropriate admissions, use of emergency ambulances and attendance at A&E.

- 4.4 Sanctions plus – Derby City and Derbyshire wide

High rates of DWP sanctions is a problem across Derbyshire authorities. We propose to provide a service that interfaces between DWP, agencies and local authorities

offering expertise in welfare benefits and money advice. This interface will liaise between DWP, Local authorities and the claimant providing advice and assistance across the board before any sanction is imposed and ensure rent is still paid to avoid homelessness. The funding will allow synergy between existing projects including Rural Action Derbyshire, Citizens Advice Bureau and DWP.

Under recent changes to welfare benefits European Economic Area households in Derby City and Derbyshire may not be eligible for benefits resulting in increased homelessness. Sanctions+ will offer additional support and advice to this group.

4.5 NSNO+ across the County

Rough sleeping has seen increases in the City and across the county. Outside the City most gravitate towards Chesterfield as the main urban area, resulting in increased rough sleeping. This enhanced project includes a worker based in Chesterfield providing a “hand-holding” service to resolve the issues of rough sleepers including accommodation and health care, replicating what already exists within the City.

4.6 The eight Borough and District Councils have £90,000 of additional money which is held in a Derby City Council budget for single homeless funding (cost centre 6000149), having not allocated this money previously. This money was part of a £357,000 allocation to Derby City Council and the eight Borough and District Councils in 2011 from DCLG.

4.7 The total amount of money available for the 4 projects identified is £340,000 and should be utilised over an 18 month period. The breakdown of costs associated with each is as follows:

- Ambition project – A total of £150,000 to cover the 18 month period with £50,000 to be granted for the initial 6 months and a further £100,000 for the next 12 months
- Healthy Futures - £20,000 to cover a six month period only
- NSNO – A total of £65,000 to cover an 18 month period with £25,000 to be granted for the first 6 months and the remaining £40,000 to cover the following 12 months.
- Sanctions Plus - £105,000 has been allocated to this project which should cover an 18 month period. Specific details of this project spend are still to be agreed by DCC and the eight Boroughs and Districts with guidance from DCC welfare reform board.

The bid in full can be found at Appendix 2

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Anita Barnett
Financial officer	Toni Nash
Human Resources officer	N/a

Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	N/a Perveez Sadiq Richard Boneham
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For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Matt Palmer None Appendix 1 - Implications Appendix 2 – The Submitted Bid
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IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 The DCLG grant of £250,000 has brought additional income into Derby City Council (along with eight Borough and District Councils) and will assist with tackling homelessness. There are no additional costs to Derby City Council other than administration/ time costs incurred in spending the grant.

Legal

- 2.1 Section 1 of the Homelessness Act 2002 places a duty on Local Authorities to formulate a homelessness strategy. This funding will complement the aims and objectives set out within Derby's Homelessness Strategy.

The Council has a duty to support people in the city who are statutorily homeless.

Personnel

- 3.1 None arising directly from this report.

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- 4.1 None arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 The initiatives supported by the funding are intended to support people who are or are at risk of homelessness and will address particular issues affecting people with protected characteristics.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None arising directly from this report.

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 None arising directly from this report.

Risk Management

- 9.1 None directly arising from this report, but any risks will need to be considered in subsequent phases of the projects.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 Reduce homelessness and increase the housing supply.
Fewer homelessness acceptances and a reduction in the number of households living in temporary accommodation. (Derby City Council Plan 2014/15).

Appendix 2



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Help for Single Homeless Application Form

This document should be read in conjunction with the prospectus available on the [GOV.UK website](http://GOV.UK).

1. Name of lead contact (each application needs a lead, named contact)
Matt Palmer
2. Lead local authority
Derby City Council
3. Job title, address & contact details (including e-mail address)
Housing Advice Manager Milestone House 93 Green Lane Derby DE1 1RX Matt.palmer@derby.gov.uk 01332 642158
4. Name of other local authorities in grouping and contact details
Amber Valley Borough Council – Jeremy Dickinson, 01773 570222 Bolsover District Council – Diane Bonsor, 01246 59306 Chesterfield Borough Council – Yvonne Fox, 01246 345117 Derbyshire Dales District Council – Simon Beynon, 01629 761306 Erewash Borough Council – Leah Taylor, 0115 907 2244 ext 3592 High Peak Borough Council – Jason Hawkes, 0845 129 8075 ext 6534 North East Derbyshire District Council - Rebecca Slack, 01246 217289 South Derbyshire District Council – Lee Carter, 01283 595797
5. Names of any other partners/services and contacts (e.g. health, probation, employment, voluntary and community sector) and confirm that they are supportive of this bid

Public Health Derbyshire , Jane Horton Public Health Derby , Dr Richard Martin Derventio , Mark Menzies Riverside ECHG , Reg Smith YMCA , Rachel Morris P3 , Mark Simms CAB , Chloe Small Rural Action Derbyshire , Sylvia Green Mental Health , Kath Butler (CPN) Action Housing , Helen Greig Probation , Deborah Gray/Sarah Winwin DWP/JCP , Karen Bull Derbyshire County Council , Julie Vollar Ambition Project , Jane Weston , Employment and Skills Officer, Economic Development Team Derbyshire Police (numerous)
6. The total amount funding you will require £250,000
7. The amount of funding you expect to obtain (if any) through local contributions, the source and the financial year £649,000 already committed to this bid. See budget profile
8. If you are London Borough and are seeking funding from the Greater London Authority's 'No First Night Out' pilot project please click this box <input type="checkbox"/>

9. Please give a summary of your proposal (350 words)
<p>Ambition Project</p> <p>The project will ensure the housing needs of young people are linked into the SCR LEP funded North Derbyshire Ambition and Talent Match projects. These schemes are employment support schemes working intensively on a 1:1 and group basis with 18 -24 year olds. Ambition is a partnership scheme with the DWP for those on JSA (3 months plus) whereas Talent Match will work with NEET (12 months plus) including people with mild to moderate learning disabilities, low level mental health, homeless and care leavers. Our scheme will also work with 24 – 35 year olds due to the local challenges in accommodating this group.</p> <p>Healthy Futures</p> <p>The Project will deliver sustainable solutions to high impact users and in-patients who are homeless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice, advocacy and practical interventions to those most vulnerable

who use health services.

- Working alongside hospital and community based staff to prevent bed blocking when a homeless individual cannot be safely discharged
- Intensively supporting high impact users the project aims to reduce inappropriate admissions, use of emergency ambulances and attendance at A&E.

Sanctions+

High DWP sanctions is a problem across Derbyshire authorities. We propose to provide a service that interfaces between DWP, agencies and local authorities offering expertise in welfare benefits and money advice. This interface will liaise between DWP, Local authorities and the claimant providing advice and assistance across the board before any sanction is imposed and ensure rent is still paid to avoid homelessness. The funding will allow synergy between existing projects including Rural Action Derbyshire, CAB and DWP.

Under recent changes to welfare benefits European Economic Area households in Derby City and Derbyshire may not be eligible for benefits resulting in increased homelessness. Sanctions+ will offer additional support and advice to this group.

NSNO+

Rough sleeping is increasing in the City and across the county. Outside the City most gravitate to Chesterfield as the main urban area, resulting in increased rough sleeping. This enhanced project includes a worker based in Chesterfield providing a “hand-holding” service to resolve the issues of rough sleepers including accommodation and health care.

See “output levels” for cohort groups.

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10. Demonstrating need (200 words)

- 550 households assessed as homeless, eligible but not in priority need
- 73% single people
- Reduction in housing-related support in Derby City in 2012 - £9.9m in 2012/13 to £1.4m in 2014/15, resulting in increased homeless approaches from single people
- 101 homeless acceptances of single people 2013/2014 (Derby City)
- Derbyshire County Council to reduce housing related support budget from £14.6m in 2012/13 to £5.6m in 2015/16, all supported accommodation to cease by March 2016.
- Derbyshire Councils experiencing increase of 7% acceptance of homeless applicants not in priority need before the more serious impact of cuts.
- Non-priority homelessness acceptances increased 199 in 2012/13 to 550 2013/14.
- Derby City and Derbyshire have highest percentage of JSA applicants

sanctioned in region = 47% (26,447).

- Derby A&E presentations by people NFA (2012/13) 302 presentations by 71 people.
- Derby inpatient admissions by people NFA, (2012/13) 96 spells by 60 people.
- Derby discharges from wards of NFA people (excluding A&E) on hospital social services caseload (2012/13) 35 discharges of 23 people
- Chesterfield Royal Hospital serves population 500,000, Derby Royal Hospital serves 660,000.
- Riverside ECHG, NSNO, referrals 2014/14, Derbyshire 203, Derby City 466
- Rough sleeping increased each year since 2010.
- 4,636 homelessness preventions the majority single homeless.

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11. Outputs Level: outcomes and targets you would like to achieve against costs (200 words)

Ambition Project - assist 195 young people over a 2 year period with 62 sustaining employment beyond a 2 year period with Talent Match projecting a target of 225 supported over a 2 year period. Estimate 50% of the target group will require housing assistance.

NSNO+ – our ambition is to reduce rough sleeping by 50% in the first year of the project and assist 669 people who are experiencing homelessness, rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping over the funding period.

Healthy Futures – based on the evidence gathered from the Royal Derby Hospital project it was calculated the average cost of rough sleepers prior to the project was £14,000 per client. The saving in the first year of the project to the Health Service was £2.25 million.

Sanctions+ - there is limited data in relation to projects to reduce those affected by sanctions. Over 26000 JSA recipients have been sanctioned across Derby City and Derbyshire in the past 12 months. Our ambition is to assist 1000 households in the benefits process to reduce the impact of sanctions.

Needs Level	Number of people helped	Unit Cost
Group 1	Ambition = 147 (18 months) NSNO+ = 50 Healthy Futures = 50 Sanctions+ = 400	£652.00 £150.00 £250.00 £65.00
Group 2	Ambition = 63 (18 month) NSNO+ = 300 Healthy Futures = 55 Sanctions+ = 400	£652.00 £150.00 £250.00 £65.00
Group 3	Ambition = 20 (18 month) NSNO+ = 319 Healthy Futures = 55 Sanctions+ = 200	£652.00 £150.00 £250.00 £65.00

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12. Innovation and service transformation (200 words)

This bid provides an integrated approach to addressing the housing needs of a range of homeless and potentially homeless people. It adopts a holistic approach with a range of partners to support young people into both housing and to enable them to sustain that housing through support into employment and training and in doing increase their self-esteem, prevent debt and prevent risk of homelessness and a first night out.

Our approach enable us to work with agencies such as the DWP and money advice groups on sanctions, access to debt and advice workers and mental health workers through Ambition. This will provide a pilot approach which can be replicated across the county. The project worker will develop a pathways approach and will work with colleagues across Derbyshire and Derby City to share good practice and evidence of need to extend the project wider.

This will create a system change where the housing needs, employment and training needs, financial inclusion and health needs are addressed via a multi-agency team around the person approach.

It is envisaged that the NSNO worker, Sanctions workers and Hospital Project worker will work closely with the North Derbyshire team monitored through the Derbyshire Homelessness Officers Group.

[200]

13. Sustainability (200 words)

Please explain how your bid meets the sustainability criteria.

The Ambition and Talent Match projects have been developed and funded at a Sheffield City Region level in close partnership with the voluntary sector, health and the DWP. If successful there will be a business case put forward to the emerging Derbyshire LEP to fund a similar project across Derbyshire and Derby city.

Evidence of success will also attract health funding to continue the work.

Sanctions+. DCC are working in partnership with Job Centre+ to offer additional help and support to vulnerable single homeless households. An Employment Advisor will be based in the Housing Team. Evidence will be gathered as part of the partnership to demonstrate improved tenancy sustainment following reduced sanctions. Developing a business case with the evidence to continue funding through housing revenue accounts and DWP.

Healthy Futures & NSNO+. Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have recognised the health and financial benefits of a hospital discharge project for rough sleepers following the evaluation of a pilot scheme at Royal Derby Hospital. By replicating the pilot project at Chesterfield Royal Hospital the evidence gathered will support an approach to the North Derbyshire CCG to show the health and financial benefits to health budgets to mainstream the project.

14. Budget profile

Please set out amount of resource funding you are bidding for and complete budget line table for September 2014 – March 2015 and April 2015 – March 2016. Please split the funding profile over two years with a ratio of 3 to 5.

Budget head	2014-15 (Sept– March)	2015-16 (April to March)
Ambition Project	£50,000	£100,000
Hospital Project	£20,000	
NSNO+	£25,000	£40,000
Sanctions+	£40,000	£65,000
Total amount sought from DCLG	£105,000	£145,000
Local contribution	£223,000 (£30,000 = LA/City Contribution) (£10,000 = NEDDC, match Healthy Futures) (£183,000 = Ambition Project, Sheffield City Region)*	£426,000 (£60,000 = LA/City Contribution) (£366,000 = Ambition Project)*
Scheme total		£899,000

**Note the Ambition Project is a £4.2 million project across the Sheffield City Region with £550k going into Chesterfield, Bolsover, North East Derbyshire and Derbyshire Dales.*

Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the answers submitted in this application are correct. I understand that the information will be used in the process to assess whether my organisation should receive funding. I understand that the Department for Communities and Local Government may reject this application if there is a failure to answer all relevant questions fully or if I provide false / misleading information. Final funding decisions will be made by the minister.

Scanned signature:



Date:
08 August 2014

Name:
Matt Palmer

Job Title:
Housing Advice
Manager

Duly authorised to sign bids on behalf of:
(lead local authority and other local authorities)

Completed forms to be submitted by 5pm, 8th August 2014 to:
singhomelessness@communities.gsi.gov.uk