

DECISION-MAKER:	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOODS
SUBJECT:	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ON DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS (DFGs) APPROVED IN 2011/12
DATE OF DECISION:	10 MAY 2011
REPORT OF:	PRIVATE HOUSING MANAGER
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
Not applicable.	

BRIEF SUMMARY

Approval of capital expenditure of £1,368,000 on Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) is sought to adapt the homes of disabled people. This approval relates to grants approved in 2011/12.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) The sum of £1,368,000 is approved to be spent on Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) approved in 2011/12.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. This is the sum contained in the approved Housing General Fund Capital Programme and these capital resources are available.
2. The Council has a statutory duty to award means-tested Disabled Facilities Grants to adapt the homes of disabled people living in privately owned properties and properties rented from a private landlord or housing association.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

3. Not approving this capital expenditure would mean that the sum contained in the approved Housing General Fund Capital Programme could not be spent on adapting the homes of disabled people through mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

4. Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) are mandatory, means-tested grants awarded to disabled people to fund essential home adaptations, which enables independent living. The funding of £1,368,000 will deliver 152 completed adaptations at an average cost of £9,000 per adaptation. Grants will be approved in 2011/12 and completed in 2011/12 and 2012/13.
5. The programme will be managed in accordance with the Council's corporate approach to project management, PM Connect, and the Project Initiation Document is attached for information as Appendix A.
6. Consultation has taken place at meetings of the Private Housing Capital Board, the Housing Capital and Projects Board and through circulation of papers to relevant officers and the Cabinet Member for Housing.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

7. The sum of £1,368,000 forms part of the Housing General Fund Capital Programme approved by Council in February 2011 and is allocated for spending on Disabled Facilities Grants approved in 2011/12 and completed in 2011/12 and 2012/13.
8. The grants approved in 2011/12 (£1,368,000) will be funded as follows:
 - Council Resources £325,000 being:
 - Right to Buy Receipts £448,000 (£266,000 in 2011/12 and £182,000 in 2012/13)
 - Contribution from Capital £148,000 (in 2011/12)
 - Government Grant £772,000 (in 2011/12)
9. There are no revenue implications.

Property/Other

10. There are no property or other implications.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

11. The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods has delegated authority to approve this expenditure under Financial Procedure Rules in accordance with the Council's Constitution (6.1.13 of the Neighbourhoods Officer Scheme of Delegation 2010/11).
12. The Council's statutory duty to award Disabled Facilities Grants is contained in the Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996.

Other Legal Implications:

13. There are no other legal implications.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

14. Delivery of the Disabled Facilities Grant programme is consistent with the Council's corporate priority of 'more support for vulnerable people and families'. There is an explicit commitment to adaptations for disabled people under this heading in the City Council Plan 2011-2014.

AUTHOR:	Name:	Paul Juan	Tel:	023 8083 3530
	E-mail:	paul.juan@southampton.gov.uk		

KEY DECISION? Yes/No Yes

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
------------------------------------	-----

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Non-confidential appendices are in the Members' Rooms and can be accessed on-line

Appendices

1.	Project Initiation Document for Project 1699 - DFGs approved in 2011/12
----	-------------------------------------------------------------------------

Documents In Members' Rooms

	None
--	------

Integrated Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) to be carried out.	Yes /No
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------

Other Background Documents

Integrated Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	Capital Programme approved February 2011	
----	------------------------------------------	--