



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot  
Neath Port Talbot Council

## **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **NEATH PORT TALBOT SOCIAL SERVICES, HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY CABINET BOARD**

**9<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Report of the Interim Head of Housing & Communities – Chelé  
Zandra Howard**

#### **Matter for Information**

#### **Wards Affected:**

All wards

#### **Housing Support Grant (HSG) Annual Report 2022**

#### **Purpose of the Report:**

To present the Housing Support Grant Annual Update 2022 (the "Annual Update") (Appendix 1).

#### **Executive Summary:**

Local authorities are required to develop a Housing Support Programme Strategy (2022-26) every four years, with a mid-point review every two years.

The Annual Update provides details on the impact of the Housing Related Support Grant (HSG) Strategy and so should be read in conjunction with this (Background Paper 1).

### **Background:**

HSG was established in 2019 and brought together three previous grants; Supporting People Programme Grant, Homelessness Prevention Funding and Rent Smart Wales Enforcement Grant. The funding is a non-statutory early intervention grant programme, focussing on preventing homelessness and avoiding the escalation of other housing related support needs in order to avoid institutionalisation.

HSG is used to fund a range of services that include homelessness prevention, temporary accommodation, domestic abuse refuges, short and longer-term supported housing and time-limited support to people in their own homes.

These services are provided to a wide range of vulnerable adults including older people, vulnerable young people, care leavers, families fleeing domestic abuse, people with a mental health need, people with a learning disability and people with a substance misuse issue, as well as households that are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

Local Authorities are required to develop a Housing Support Programme Strategy (2022-26), with a mid-point review every two years. The purpose of this strategy is to outline the strategic direction of the local authority for housing support services and provide a single strategic view of the local authority's approach to homelessness prevention and housing support services,

Each year the Council develops an Annual Update which provides detail on the impact of the Housing Support Grant ("HSG").

### **Financial Impacts:**

There are no financial impacts arising from the Annual Update.

The Council's indicative allocation for 2023/24 is £6,496,185.63, with no change against the 2022/23 allocation. This will have a positive impact on the Councils budget for 2023/24.

Taking forward the commissioning priorities within the Annual Update will be in line with the available grant once confirmed.

### **Integrated Impact Assessment:**

There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment as this report is for information purposes. Individual Integrated Impact Assessments will be undertaken as part of any Housing Support Grant commissioning. Information from these assessments will inform the development and commissioning of services.

### **Valleys Communities Impacts:**

The contents of this report has no impact on Valleys Communities as the item is for information only.

### **Workforce Impacts:**

The contents of this report do not have any impact on the Council's workforce as the item is for information only.

### **Legal Impacts:**

The contents of this report do not have any legal impacts.

### **Risk Management Impacts:**

The Annual Update in itself does not have any risk management impacts, however the services purchased from HSG have the following impacts:

Crime and Disorder Impacts:

Activity outlined in the Annual Update should have a positive effect on the below Crime and Disorder Impacts:

- a) Crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
- b) The misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area; and
- c) Re-offending the area

This is due to the Housing Support Grant supporting achievement of the WG outcome measure of 'promoting personal and community safety'.

Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Impacts:

Activity outlined in the Annual Update should have a positive effect on the below Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Impacts:

Section 2(1) of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 introduced a general duty where a person exercising relevant functions must have regard (along with all other relevant matters) to the need to remove or minimise any factors which —

- (a) increase the risk of violence against women and girls, or

(b) exacerbate the impact of such violence on victims.

This is because a number of services purchased with HSG relate to the provision of domestic abuse support.

**Consultation:**

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

**Recommendations:**

To note the contents of the Housing Support Grant Annual Update.

**Reasons for Proposed Decision:**

Not applicable.

**Implementation of Decision:**

No decision required.

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1: Housing Support Grant Annual Update 2022

**List of Background Papers:**

Background Paper 1: Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022-26

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