

Report to Portfolio Holder for Housing Health and Wellbeing

Subject: DWP Winter Grant Gedling delivery partnership - proposal to transfer underspends to Nottingham Energy Partnership

Date: 23 March 2021

Author: Community Investment Manager

Wards Affected

All

Purpose

To authorise the transfer of remaining balance of Gedling DWP grant allocation to Nottingham Energy Partnership to support vulnerable residents.

Key Decision

Not a key decision

Recommendation(s)

THAT the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Health and Wellbeing approves:

The immediate transfer of the Gedling DWP Winter Grant projected underspend of £9,560 to Nottingham Energy Partnership.

1 Background

- 1.1 In January 2021, Gedling BC established a delivery partnership with four community delivery partners to provide eligible households made vulnerable during winter due to Covid -19 with food support, supermarket vouchers and referrals to Nottingham Energy Partnership for help with winter energy bills as part of the Countywide DWP Winter Grant Scheme. To date this has resulted in over 170 households receiving food support.
- 1.2 At the outset of the scheme, Gedling BC had received an allocation of £40,800 to deliver the food support element, and NEP had received a

separate County wide allocation to deliver winter warmth support.

- 1.3 As the scheme has progressed, it has become evident that demand for winter warmth support is far higher than anticipated, and, in common with most other Districts, the demand for food support has been lower than anticipated
- 1.4 In Gedling, this has resulted in a projected underspend across the local delivery partnership of £9,560 by scheme end 16/04/21.
- 1.5 In unanimous agreement with our local community delivery partners and NCC, we are proposing to transfer that underspend to Nottingham Energy Partnership as a matter of priority, to enable eligible Gedling households to receive winter warmth payments and other NEP support up until 16/03/2021.

2 Proposal

- 2.1 It is proposed that the sum of £9,560 is transferred to NEP as outlined above

3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 To return the underspend to DWP.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The budget comes from an external source and will not affect any existing council budgets

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications associated with this report

6 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 This decision will have a positive impact in addressing winter warmth needs of vulnerable residents of Gedling.

7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct implications associated with this report

8 Appendices

- 8.1 None

9 Background Papers

9.1 None identified

10 Reasons for Recommendations

10.1 To ensure that the full Gedling allocation of the DWP Grant is spent on appropriate support for identified vulnerable households in the Borough, within the timeframe of the grant.