

9th November 2023**Report of the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee****Matters referred to Cabinet in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules**

Scrutiny Committee	Title of Matter referred	Date of Scrutiny meeting
Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny	Housing Strategy Wellbeing Update	17/10/23

Exempt Information

None.

Purpose

To notify Cabinet of the report and recommendations from the Housing Strategy Wellbeing Update review item that was discussed at the meeting of Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny on the 17th October 2023.

Recommendations

Following consideration of the item the Committee agree to the following recommendations being made to Cabinet:

- H&W/1** Recommend to Cabinet to continue to Lobby Government to have funding for DFG to be allocated on the need of the district rather than the current calculation.
(Moved by Councillor J Oates and seconded by Councillor T Clements)

Background Information

The Committee receives a quarterly update on the Housing Strategy

Executive Summary

At the meeting on the 17th October whilst reviewing the Housing Strategy Wellbeing quarterly update the Safer Communities and Homes Manager, Lisa Hall highlighted the following information from the report –

- Priority 5: Disabled facilities grants are aimed at Private sector tenant's around adapting a property so they can remain. There are currently 172 open cases. Disabled Facilities Adaptation is aimed at Tamworth Borough Council Tenants and there are currently 127 open cases.

During discussion the Committee highlighted that the current system in place by Government for DFG funding allows for some boroughs to be allocated more funding

than they need which they are not spending, whilst others, such as Tamworth are not receiving enough funding to cover the needs of their residents, and whether now was the time to challenge other authorities and Government around this?

A motion was moved by Council J Oates to recommend to Cabinet to continue to Lobby Government to have funding for DFG to be allocated on the need of the district rather than the current calculation.

The motion was seconded by Councillor T Clements and carried by the Committee.

Options Considered

None.

Key considerations

1. Scrutiny committees have statutory powers to make recommendations to the Executive, and the Executive (Cabinet) has a statutory duty to respond. They may also make reports and recommendations to external decision making bodies.
2. The agenda for Executive meetings shall include a standing item entitled 'Matters Referred to the Cabinet In Accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules'. The reports of overview and scrutiny committees and sub-committees referred to the Executive shall be included at this point in the agenda (unless they have been considered in the context of the Executive's deliberations on a substantive item on the agenda) within one calendar month of the overview and scrutiny committee or sub-committee completing its report/recommendations.
3. Scrutiny recommendations are addressed to the Cabinet, as the main Executive decision making body of the council (or, where appropriate, an external agency).
4. Cabinet is being asked to note the scrutiny report / recommendations and that an Executive Response to the scrutiny recommendations be prepared for consideration by the Cabinet within two months from receiving the report or recommendations.
5. The minutes of the meeting of the scrutiny committee provide the record of the scrutiny committee's consideration of the issue and the scrutiny recommendations made during the meeting.
6. The scrutiny committee will be notified of the Executive Response made in respect to the scrutiny recommendations and may track the implementation of the Cabinet decisions and any actions agreed. This enables the scrutiny committee to track whether their recommendations have been agreed, what actually was agreed (if different) and review any outcomes arising

Report Author

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Chair of Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny