



HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

OFFICER DECISION RECORD

Department:	Children and Joint Commissioning Services
Division:	Joint Commissioning
Date of Decision / Issue of Licence:	20 January 2023
Officer Making Decision:	Sally Robinson, Director
Subject / Description & Reason for Decision:	<p>Projected underspend in the Household Support Fund (HSF) October 2022 – March 2023. In order to benefit local residents, it is proposed that this underspend is used to alleviate fuel poverty through the provision of additional grant funding to the Citizen’s Advice Bureau and Advice@Hart to accelerate their support to help/reach more people and/or increase the value of the awards they make. Through delivering the programme, there has been considerable uptake of the fuel offer from these organisations. Many residents of Hartlepool are experiencing significant hardship associated with the cost of fuel to heat their homes over the winter months.</p> <p>To date, through this element of the HSF scheme, 851 households have been helped which include 361 children. Approximately £43k in additional benefits have also been claimed as a result of the fuel appointment. The proposal is to allocate an additional £35k to each organisation to distribute given the current fuel costs and challenges the community is experiencing as a result.</p>
Type of Decision:	<p>Non Key</p> <p>Direct consequence of Key decision tests (1) and (2) applied. General exception notice applied.</p>
Nature of Delegation Being Exercised:	Officer Delegated Authority – minute 33 – Finance and Policy Committee held on 28 September 2022 – authority delegated to the Director, Children and Joint Commissioning Services, in conjunction with the chair of Finance and Policy Committee, to

amend funding pots so as to ensure full utilisation of grant within the time period.

Alternative Options Considered & Rejected:

The provision of a £5 supermarket giftcard to children and pensioners to assist with costs of food. This would be a nominal amount for each recipient and would require significantly more officer time to administer.

Any Declared Register of Interest

No
If Yes, specify:

(delete as appropriate)

OFFICER WITH THE DELEGATION - Director

NAME:SALLY ROBINSON.....

POSITION: .DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND JOINT COMMISSIONING SERVICES

In consultation with Chair of Finance and Policy Committee:

NAME: Shane Moore.....

POSITION: CHAIR OF FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE