



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

SUBJECT: Supporting People Operational Plan 2012/13

PURPOSE OF ATTACHED REPORT:


The report has been prepared to:

1. Seek approval for the plans, priorities and needs identified in the 2012/13 Supporting People Operational Plan.

DELEGATED DECISION (Date):

To approve the plan and its priorities on the basis of existing and projected financial commitments.

To note the contribution the programme makes to supporting vulnerable people secure safe and stable housing.

 Chief Officer Signature	EWS Williams Print Name	24 th July 2012 Date
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The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.



CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

23/01/2012.

DATE



OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

23/01/2012.

DATE

Directorate:	Community & children's services
Contact Name:	Phillip Howells
Designation:	Head of community housing
Tel.No.	01443 - 425746

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2011 – 2012:
REPORT TO ACCOMPANY DECISION OF
GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Part 1 (Non-Confidential)

Supporting People Programme Grant and Support for Vulnerable Groups.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The report has been prepared to seek approval of the plans, priorities and needs identified in the 2012/13 Supporting People Operational Plan.

In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer decision of the Group Director, Community and Children's Services as described below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the Supporting People Operational Plan for 2012/13.

3. BACKGROUND:

3.1. The Supporting People Operational Plan (SPOP) reflects and delivers the Council's priorities for the allocation of grant funding. The Supporting People Programme Grant, contributes to the delivery of local projects providing supported housing and housing related support to individuals and groups of individuals who need assistance to secure and sustain safe and appropriate living arrangements.

3.2. The Supporting People Programme Grant unlike specific policy grants, service grants or contracts, has been developed to ensure services are in place to meet the non-statutory needs of people whose problems cut across a number of traditional service areas including housing, homelessness, health, child and adult social care and community safety.

3.3. Grant funding for all projects continues to be determined through an objective assessment and analysis of the non-statutory needs that exist within a particular group or community. The SPOP helps with the delivery of projects that contribute to the delivery of preventative services and compliment the Council's higher level plans such as the Local Housing Strategy and the Health Social Care and Well-being Plan, Community Safety Plan and the Children and Young Peoples Plan.

3.4 To date the Council, working in partnership with supported housing providers, has been successful in obtaining almost £9 million to contribute to the provision of housing related support services for vulnerable groups, who would otherwise be homeless, at risk of homelessness or at risk of unnecessarily remaining or entering institutional forms of care.

3.5. At a local level the grant makes a contribution to the delivery of a range of projects that includes Sheltered Housing- for older people, Homeless Hostels- for young and vulnerable homeless people and Emergency Accommodation- for those fleeing domestic abuse. It also contributes to the funding of a number of projects that provide temporary and permanent housing and support for people with poor mental health, people with a learning disability, people recovering from substance misuse, people with a physical disability or chronic illness, older people, homeless vulnerable single parents, young people and prison leavers.

3.6. The programme continues to be led by the Council and its administration overseen by a multi-agency group, Chaired by the Group Director of Community and Children's Services. These arrangements are supported by the local democratic process as decisions about the programme are made by the people who understand the needs of individuals and the communities any developments are intended to serve.

3.7. The 2012/2013 plan, is based on an objective analysis of evidenced need, which has identified the following groups, in order of priority, for development and investment where capital and/or revenue funding is available: People with poor Mental Health, People recovering from Substance Misuse, People who are Homeless or at risk of Homelessness, People with a Learning Disability, Older People, People with a Physical Disability, Women experiencing Domestic Abuse, Prison Leavers, and Young Single Homeless People.

4. CONCLUSION:

4.1. The Supporting People Programme Grant supports some of the most vulnerable and socially excluded people in our communities. Housing related support services work with individuals who often live chaotic or isolated lives, which can be compounded by homelessness the treat of homelessness or unnecessarily entering institutional care. As a result people often experience greater exclusion and many are reluctant or unable to engage with traditional statutory services and in many instances services are unable to engage with them- without a safe, secure and stable home.

4.2. The housing related support projects funded by the grant programme are no substitute for good quality health and social care or treatment and counselling to address peoples long standing issues and chronic problems. Often, the provision of housing related support prevents or delays peoples need for more costly or corrective interventions from statutory services. The provision of support helps to ensure vulnerable people can secure and sustain safe and stable housing that enables them to access and engage with a wider range of services that can help them overcome both chronic and acute problems.