



INDIVIDUAL OFFICER DECISION DECISION RECORD FORM

Date of Decision	21 March 2023
Subject	Local Authority Housing Fund
Wards affected	All Wards
Officer taking decision	Director of Communities

Decision taken

To enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities (DLUHC) to deliver the Local Authority Housing Fund in Gloucester

Delegated power used

The scheme of sub-delegation allows for the Director of Communities to take all steps reasonably necessary for the effective and efficient delivery of services for which they are responsible.

Reason for decision

Background:

The Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) is a DLUHC funding programme that aims to secure additional affordable homes for Ukrainian and Afghan households who are accommodated through the wide range of schemes currently available to them.

In the case of Afghan households, they are currently accommodated in bridging hotel accommodation that is unsuitable for their longer-term needs. Ukrainian households who have fled the war in Ukraine are currently accommodated either with local host families, or with their extended family in the local area.

Where Ukrainian households become homeless, the local housing authority has an obligation to take a homelessness application, and this may result in the need to provide accommodation.

LAHF funding is available to the council to deliver 11 homes for Ukrainian households and two large family homes for Afghan families and provides a contribution to the full cost of delivering the accommodation and associated fixtures, fittings, and furnishings.

Reason for Decision

As the council does not own or manage housing stock, officers have worked closely with

registered providers who have agreed to deliver the homes required by the LAHF, and any LAHF funding required will be passed directly to each relevant registered provider in accordance with the scheme requirements.

Once the properties delivered are no longer needed to support Afghan and Ukrainian households, the accommodation will revert to general needs accommodation for the benefit of Gloucester residents in housing need.

Alternative options considered

The option not to enter into an agreement with DLUHC to deliver the LAHF scheme was discounted as it would reduce the availability of stable accommodation for Afghan and Ukrainian households who are currently accommodated in bridging hotels or in local resident's homes.

Consultation Undertaken and Results of Consultation

N/A

People Impact Assessment (PIA)

Screening Stage completed: Yes

Full PIA required, completed and attached: No

Any Conflicts of Interest

N/A

Declarations of Interest (including any dispensations granted):

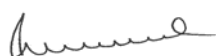
N/A

Background documents:

Local Authority Housing Fund Prospectus

Confidential or Exempt Information: No

Decision Maker: **Date:** 21 March 2023



Ruth Saunders
Director of Communities