

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION TAKEN BY AN EXECUTIVE MEMBER OR OFFICER

This form can be used for any decision but **MUST** be used to record:

- any decision taken by the Elected Mayor or an individual Councillor
- a key decision taken by a Council Officer

In these circumstances the form must be completed and passed to the Head of Members' Services no later than NOON on the second working day after the day on which the decision is taken. No action may be taken to implement the decision(s) recorded on this form until 7 days have passed and the Head of Members' Services has confirmed the decision has not been called in.

1. Description of decision

To accept a grant from the Department for Transport of £227,233 made on 29 March 2018, and a subsequent payment of £78,356 to be made in April 2018..

This is a Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant provided to help repair potholes and to protect local roads from severe weather.

2. Date of decision

1/11 April 2018

3. Reasons for decision

In common with the rest of the UK, road surface conditions in Bedford have deteriorated as a result of particularly adverse weather over the winter of 2017/18. This money will assist in repairing the defects that have appeared and maintaining the council's position in the top quartile of all councils with regard to the condition of its roads.

4. Alternatives considered and rejected

The alternative was not to accept the funding. This was rejected as a number of our roads are in need of repair and it would be perverse to decline funding made available for this purpose.

5. How decision is to be funded

The decision is to accept a DfT grant.

6. Conflicts of interest

Name of all Executive members who were consulted AND declared a conflict of interest.	Nature of interest	Did Standards Committee give a dispensation for that conflict of interest? (If yes, give details and date of dispensation)	Did the Chief Executive give a dispensation for that conflict of interest? (If yes, give details and the date of the dispensation).

--	--	--	--

The Mayor has been consulted on this decision

N/A

Signed Don Hodgson Date 11/4/2018 Name of Decision Taker The Mayor

This is a public document. A copy of it must be given to the Service Manager (Committee & Administrative Services) as soon as it is completed.

Date decision published: 11th April 2018

Date decision can be implemented if not called in: 23rd April 2018

(Decision to be made exempt from call in.....~~YES~~ or NO.....)

Bedford Borough Council – Report to Mayor

April 2018

Report by: Chief Officer – Planning & Highways

Subject: ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The purpose of this report is to request approval to accept a grant from the Department for Transport of £227,233 made on 29 March 2018, and a subsequent payment of £78,356 to be made in April 2018.

2. Recommendations

2.1 **That the Mayor consider and, if satisfied accepts a grant of £227,233 made on 29 March 2018, and a subsequent payment of £78,356 to be made in April 2018.**

3. Reasons For Recommendations

3.1 In common with the rest of the UK, road surface conditions in Bedford have deteriorated as a result of particularly adverse weather over the winter of 2017/18. This money will assist in repairing the defects that have appeared and maintaining the council's position in the top quartile of all councils with regard to the condition of its roads.

3.2 This money is a capital grant cited as the Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2017/18) No.31/3296. The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them in repairing potholes and to protect local roads from severe weather.

4. Key Implications

4.1 The implications of accepting the grant offer with regard to any legal, policy, resource, risk, environmental or equality issues have been considered as follows:

Legal Issues

Grant paid to a local authority under these determination may be used only for the purposes that a capital receipt may be used for in accordance with regulations made under section 11 of the Local Government Act 2003.

The Chief Executive and Chief Internal Auditor of each of the recipient authorities are required to sign and return to the team leader of the Local Infrastructure team¹ in the Department for Transport a declaration, to be received no later than 30 September 2018, in the following terms:

“To the best of our knowledge and belief, and having carried out appropriate investigations and checks, in our opinion, in all significant respects, the conditions attached to the Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2017/18) No.31/3296 have been complied with”.

If an authority fails to comply with any of the conditions and requirements of paragraphs 1 and 2, the Minister may a) reduce, suspend or withhold grant; or a) by notification in writing to the authority, require the repayment of the whole or any part of the grant.

Policy Issues

No specific issues

Resource Implications

The grant can be used effectively without any increase in the council’s own resources.

Risk Implications

None

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications identified in accepting the grant offered.

Equalities Impact

There are no environmental implications identified in accepting the grant offered.

5. **Details**

- 5.1 As the grant is capital funding, it will be used on a scheme or schemes of carriageway resurfacing that meet the council's guidelines for capital expenditure. These schemes will be added to the council's existing programme of road repairs
- 5.2 The scheme(s) selected will be publicised in the normal way.

6. **Summary Of Consultations And Outcome**

- 6.1 The following Council units or Officers and / or other organisations have been consulted in preparing this report:

Director of Environment

7. **Ward Councillor Views**

Not applicable for this report.

Report Contact Officer(s): Jon Shortland, Chief Planning and Highways Officer

Previous Relevant Minutes: N/a

Background Papers: N/a

Appendices Award Letter from the Department for Transport

BACKGROUND PAPERS



Department
for Transport

Anthony Boucher
Local Infrastructure Division
Department for Transport
Room 2/14
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR
Direct Line: 0207 944 6541

Phil Simpkins
Chief Executive
Bedford Borough Council
Sent by email to:
philip.simpkins@bedford.gov.uk

Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

29 March 2018

Dear Mr Simpkins

Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2017/18) No.31/3296

The Secretary of State for Transport announced on Monday 26th March 2018 that a further £100m of funding is being provided to help repair potholes and to protect local roads from severe weather.

I am writing to confirm that we will be providing you with a maximum capital funding allocation of £305,589, from the pothole and flood resilience funding, which will be paid in two instalments. One of £227,233 on 29 March 2018, and a subsequent payment of £78,356 in April 2018. These payments provide all the funding that we expect to make to you from the pothole action fund and for flood resilience in 2017/18 and in 2018/19. I trust that these payments will assist with your plans to repair potholes and to protect your local road network from adverse weather.

The funding for 2017/18 is being provided under Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2017/18) no.31/3296 as capital. We therefore require you and your Authority's Chief Internal Auditor to sign the declaration at Annex A and return it to the Department by 30 September 2018. We are content for this declaration to be combined with the declaration for the Local Transport Capital Block Funding 2017/18 as set out in my letter of 31 March 2017.

In due course I will provide details of the Specific Grant Determination for the funding payment to be made in April, and to confirm 2018/19 funding from the Highways Maintenance Block and the Integrated Transport Block.

Please contact us at roadmaintenance@dft.gsi.gov.uk for queries relating to the funding allocations outlined in this letter or telephone Gordon Rolfe on 0207 944 2249.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Boucher
Deputy Director: Local Infrastructure

LOCAL TRANSPORT CAPITAL BLOCK FUNDING (FLOOD RESILIENCE FUND) SPECIFIC GRANT DETERMINATION (2017/18): No 31/3296.

The Minister for Local Transport (“the Minister”), in exercise of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, makes the following determination:

Citation

1) This determination may be cited as the Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2017/18) No.31/3296.

Purpose of the grant

2) The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them.

Determination

3) The Minister determines that the maximum additional amount of grant payable to Bedford Borough Council shall be £227,233.

Grant conditions

4) Pursuant to section 31(3) and 31(4) of the Local Government Act 2003, the Minister determines that the grant will be paid subject to the conditions in Annex A.

Treasury consent

5) Before making this determination in relation to local authorities in England, the Minister obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed by authority of the Minister for Local Transport



Anthony Boucher
A senior civil servant within the Department for Transport

March 2018

ANNEX A - GRANT CONDITIONS

1. Grant paid to a local authority under these determination may be used only for the purposes that a capital receipt may be used for in accordance with regulations made under section 11 of the Local Government Act 2003.

2. The Chief Executive and Chief Internal Auditor of each of the recipient authorities are required to sign and return to the team leader of the Local Infrastructure team¹ in the Department for Transport a declaration, to be received no later than 30 September 2018, in the following terms:

“To the best of our knowledge and belief, and having carried out appropriate investigations and checks, in our opinion, in all significant respects, the conditions attached to the Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Flood Resilience Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2017/18) No.31/3296 have been complied with”.

3. If an authority fails to comply with any of the conditions and requirements of paragraphs 1 and 2, the Minister may-

a) reduce, suspend or withhold grant; or

a) by notification in writing to the authority, require the repayment of the whole or any part of the grant.

4. Any sum notified by the Minister under paragraph 3(b) shall immediately become repayable to the Minister.

¹ Local Infrastructure team can be contacted at LT.PLANS@DFT.GSI.GOV.UK or on 0207 944 2249.