



Scrutiny

A8 Which Scrutiny Committee should this decision be submitted to? (*Please tick as appropriate*)

Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee

Scrutiny (Regeneration Development and Market Hall) Committee

Scrutiny (Health and Wellbeing) Committee ✓

Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee

<p>B1 What is the Decision?</p>	<p>To identify and establish a number of Warm Spaces in community based locations across the Borough.</p>
<p>B2 What are the reasons for the Decision?</p>	<p>The Council will be continuing to offer support to residents who are experiencing hardship with cost of living and utility bills. In 2023/24 the Council is continuing to play a part in supporting residents facing these difficulties by identifying and supporting 'Warm Community Spaces' around the Borough. Following evaluation of the Warm Spaces scheme that ran in 2022/23, the Council has increased the grant funding available to ensure widespread coverage across the Borough. This scheme will run alongside the Food Aid and Community Kitchens programmes that are also part of the Council's cost of living response providing a holistic approach to our community support work.</p> <p>In order to facilitate this support, a grant fund of £40,000.00 will be established. Grant funding of £500.00 up to a maximum of £2,000.00 per organisation will be available. 50% of the grant award will be paid out 'up front' to the operators. The remaining 50% of the grant will be paid out up on satisfactory completion of the mid-point evaluation so that the Council can understand the impact and usage of the warm spaces.</p> <p>The grant is designed to contribute towards the costs of opening up community venues, extending opening hours and/or extending existing provisions. The period that the grant for the 'Warm Space' will cover is from 1st November 2023 through to 31st March 2024. The grant can be used to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running costs including utility bills linked to the operation of the warm space • Purchase of items for the provision of free warm refreshments • Purchase of catering equipment to enable the provision of refreshments • Costs associated with setting up an additional activity for Warm Space users to participate in <p>The 'Warm Space' offer must be regular, running for a minimum of 2 hours per week operating in a</p>

<p>B2 Alternative options considered and rejected?</p>	<p>warm room that is open and accessible to all with warm refreshments provided free of charge.</p> <p>Venues offering a 'Warm Space' will be mapped across the Borough and applications may be refused if there is already extensive provision in the area specified on the application form.</p> <p>Details of venues offering a Warm Space provision will be included on the Council's Warm Spaces webpage.</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>B3 What are the contributions to Corporate Priorities?</p>	<p>Standing up for our communities – Tackling the cost of living crisis</p>
<p>B4 What are the Human Rights considerations?</p>	<p>There are no Human Rights issues arising from this decision.</p>

Financial Implications

<p>B5 What are the financial implications?</p>	<p>The main financial issues arising from this decision are as follows: The grant fund of £40,000.00 will be established from monies allocated to the Cost of Living response for 2023/24.</p> <p>Support to organisations operating a 'warm space' is assessed through a grant application form. All applications will be reviewed by the Cabinet Member and Support Cabinet Member as part of a joined up approach with the Food Fund and Community Kitchens programmes. The maximum grant available to any organisation through the Warm Spaces grant programme is £2,000.00.</p>
---	--

Revenue	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Grant funding up to	40,000		

The finance section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit:	Please print name: Anya Murray Please sign name: (Approval by email 27/09/23)
---	--

Policy Framework

B6 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's policy framework?	Yes
B6.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B6.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	Yes
B7 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's budget?	Yes
B7.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B7.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	N/A

Equalities Implications

B8 What are the Equalities implications:
<p>B8.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): This provision will be open to all sections of the communities within East Staffordshire. The grant scheme is open to applications from any community organisation, voluntary group and charity who wish to operate a 'warm space'</p>
<p>B8.2 Negative (Threats): Some facilities may be able to open for longer periods than others. Some facilities may not be able offer 'warm spaces' due to limitations with capacity.</p>
B8.3 The subject of this decision is [not] a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality impact assessment is not required.
B8.4 [The equality impact assessment identified the following actions to be carried out: N/A

Risk Assessment

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications:
B9.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits):

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications:

Maximising available funds and providing a funding process that ensures fair and equal access to grant funding
Mapping provision of 'Warm Spaces' across the Borough and making information publicly available to enable residents to access these provisions.

B9.2 Negative (Threats)

Insufficient funding applications leading to an underspend
Submission of multiple applications for a specific Ward leading to an unequal distribution of grant funding across the Borough.

B9.3 The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

Legal Considerations

B10 What are the Legal Considerations:

B10.1 By s24 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, the Council has the statutory power to do anything which an individual could do. This includes the provision of grants such as that proposed in this Report.

This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team

Please print name: Glen McCusker – Locum Solicitor.

Please sign name (Approval by email 25/09/23)

Sustainability Implications

B11 What are the Sustainability implications:

B11.1 The proposal would result in an overall positive effect in terms of sustainability (including climate change and change adaptation measures). The positive/negative impacts are set out below (please refer to guidance notes).

B11.2 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits):

By providing a 'Warm Space' residents will be able to use less heating resources in their own home.

B11.3 Negative (Threats):

The times the 'Warm Spaces' are available may vary across the Borough and be dependent on what each facility is able to provide.

Health & Safety Implications

B12 What are the Health & Safety implications:
B12.1 A Risk Assessment has not been carried out and entered into Safety Media for all significant hazards and risks because there are no significant hazards or risks arising from this decision.
B12.2 [The significant hazards and risks have been identified in the Safety Media Risk Assessment numbered []. Any financial implications to mitigate against these hazards and risks are considered above.] N/A
B12.3 [Control measures and an action plan have been identified for any significant hazards and risks identified in the risk assessment. The positive/negative impacts are set out below] N/A
B12.3.1 Positive (Benefits)
B12.3.2 Negative (Threats)

Key Decision

B13 Is this a Key Decision? No

Note: A Key Executive Decision is one where:

1. **REVENUE** – Any contract or proposal with an annual payment or saving of more than £100,000
2. **CAPITAL** – Any capital project with a value in excess of £150,000
3. **A decision which significantly affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.**

B13.1 If this is a Key Decision, is this an urgent decision such that a delay caused by use of the Call-in Procedure would <u>seriously</u> prejudice the public interest?	NA
B13.2 If yes, has the Mayor or in his/her absence the Deputy Mayor or in his/her absence the Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee agreed that the decision will be exempt from Call-in?	NA

NOTE: If this decision is subject to the Call-in Procedure it will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 3 working days after publication – unless 10 Members of the Council call in the decision.

Please send the original signed document to andrea.davies@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk