

Report of the Chief Executive

GREEN HOMES GRANT (LOCAL AUTHORITY DELIVERY PHASE 2)Purpose of report

To advise Committee of the Green Homes Grant (Local Authority Delivery Phase 2) and of the proposal which has been submitted to upgrade the energy efficiency of dwellings in the Council owned stock.

Detail

On 25 February 2021, the government issued detailed guidance on Phase 2 of the Local Authority Delivery (LAD) Scheme to support English local authorities with the aim of saving householder's money, cutting carbon emissions and creating green jobs. This follows phase 1 and 1b where money was allocated following bidding rounds.

The LAD scheme aims to raise the energy efficiency of low-income and low EPC rated homes, including the worst quality off-gas grid homes, delivering progress towards reducing fuel poverty, the phasing out of high carbon fossil fuel heating and the UK's commitment to net zero by 2050. This accords with Broxtowe's commitment to become carbon neutral by 2027. Phase 2 comprises £300m that has been allocated through Local Energy Hubs for regional delivery commencing in 2021. The Midlands Energy Hub (MEH) has received £59.95m and Broxtowe's share is £724,850.

Work has been undertaken to look at ways of fully utilising the funding in Broxtowe. The timeframe is very tight with all works having to be completed by 31 December 2021. With this in mind, a scheme to use the funding to upgrade dwellings in the Council stock has been prepared. The scheme which we are looking to implement involves installing external wall insulation to 23 blocks of flats, some electric central heating upgrades, and some external wall insulation to a number of houses with solid walls.

Financial implications

The Green Homes Grant will pay for two thirds of the cost of works per dwelling, up to a maximum cost per job of £7,500. Therefore, the Green Homes Grant will contribute a maximum of £5,000 towards each job with the Council meeting the remaining cost from other resources. The 2021/22 capital programme already includes £1,060,000 for heating replacements and other energy efficiency works on the Council's housing stock. This funding will enhance the sum available and enable further work to be undertaken.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RECOMMEND that Finance and Resources Committee include an additional £724,850 in the 2021/22 capital programme for heating replacements and other energy efficiency works on the Council's housing stock funded from the Green Homes Grant (LAD Phase 2).

Background papers: Nil