Disabled Facilities Grants

Briefing Note



Background

At the meeting held on 8 July 2015, the Overview and Scrutiny Board considered a report on the outturn of the Capital Investment Plan for 2014/2015. The report included a recommendation that £1.020 million be allocated for Disabled Facilities Grants for 2015/2016 an that £0.4 million of unspent prior years Grants be reallocated to support infrastructure works.

The Board asked that further information be provided on Disabled Facilities Grants specifically in relation to how the recommendation to reduce and re-allocate the budget had been made, how the demand for the service had changed and whether the criteria for the grant had changed.

Subsequently, at the meeting of the Council held on 23 July 2015 it was agreed that:

"The re-allocation of £0.4 million of unspent prior years Disabled Facilities Grant to support infrastructure works [be deferred] until a report is submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Board, by October 2015, on the pressures facing Disabled Facilities Grants and whether this money should be held on a Disabled Facilities Grant Reserve or used to support infrastructure works."

A report on Disabled Facilities Grants prepared by the Assistant Director (Community and Customer Services) and the Chief Accountant is attached at Appendix 1.