

Flintshire County Council - Phase 2 Proposals (Upto 31/03/21)

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| COLOUR CODING - | | | |
| STATUS OF THE PROJECT | FUNDED BY PHASE 2 Welsh Government have approved these activities | TO BE PICKED UP BY HSG THROUGH UNDERSPEND Opportunity to fund through our HSG Underspend in 20-21. | NOT APPROVED AND WONT RECEIVE HSG FUNDING WGov didn't fund the proposal and we are not in a position to mobilise or fund through this years HSG Underspend |

Revenue Expenditure Request @ £501,000 Awarded a Total of £186,000

| Proposed Project | Phase 2 | Objective | Details of Services to be provided | |
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| PROJECT 1 Housing First | £50,000 | To develop a holistic Housing First project for all ages and complex needs cases (inc families) | Build on the initial development work of Tai Ni which is FCC' Housing First for Young People project. Due to Covid19 this project has not progressed from initial development stage due to recent pressures, but an opportunity to develop increased capacity and pick up an older cohort to support the covid19 cohort in interim housing at present and expected challenging cases due to come through (particular focus on complex needs and prison leavers). Appoint a Team Leader and additional staff. | CONFIDENTIAL: We have not been able to mobilise the Tai Ni Project which was funded by WGov Young Persons Innovation Funding. WGov comfortable with this and have been updated throughout. Discussions are progressing with WGov about potentially utilizing the PRS Project to help fund this project and there is potential for us to merge with a Sub Regional Model for North Wales |
| PROJECT 2 Rapid Re-housing Staff | £40,000 | To have 2 dedicated officers to work on Rapid Rehousing of the Covid19 Cohort | Bringing in 2 specific staff from Tenancy Support to deliver rapid rehousing support and ensure tenancy start up within social or PRS tenancies secured on back of covid19 response. Focus on ensuring all tenancies start up effectively and with clear support packages with multi agency | Officers now "in post" with FCC. |

| | | | commitments for the long term to meet needs of the tenants. The funding would enable the back filling of posts as we utilize 2 existing officers to hit the ground running with Rapid Rehousing Support. | |
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| PROJECT 3 Rapid Rehousing Home Starter Budget | £50,000 | Budget for Tenancy Start Ups linked to rapid rehousing. 20 households with approx. budget of £2500 per household. | Rapid Rehousing Home Starter Funding for purchase of essential items and preparation of properties through materials such as carpets, décor if needed, furnishing and IT infrastructure to enable digital engagement with services. Wi-Fi and tablets would enable people to better engage with digitally transformed services if this is the new normal for many elements of customer contact and engagement for services. Ensuring people have a good quality of accommodation and are assisted to furnish homes and make them their own is key to rapid rehousing approach and tenancy sustainment. | We are able to draw down the Home Starter Funding from a variety of funding streams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 Funding • DAF • Internal Spend to Save • HSG “One Off Pot” |
| PROJECT 4 Scoping of HSG Priorities | £20,000 | To respond to the changing needs of households on the back of c19 and use this insight to inform future commissioning plans for HSG | Engage specialist researcher to review and map the changing needs of housing and support services on the back of covid19 with a view to developing a better understanding and then inform future forecast of the demand for services through HSG funding to inform future commissioning plans. FCC is due to re-tender its HSG services 2021-2022 and having a better feel for “the new normal” would inform that commissioning strategy and priorities,. Whilst we may have known what we may need prior to Covid19 | WGov liked the idea, but unwilling to fund activities that were not focused on front line service delivery. Also very reluctant to fund activities that bring in Consultants. MC has flagged this with North Wales partners as something we may wish to consider regionally. |

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| | | | the impact of the pandemic may significantly change the landscape so some intelligence gathering and mapping evidence of the changing needs of service users would inform the future commissioning process for HSG. | |
| PROJECT 5 PIE Service Transformation | £20,000 | Opportunities to bring in specialist “organizational change” support to enable transformation of service delivery and adopt more Psychologically Informed Approaches | Opportunities for training and specialist support (possibly through consultancy time) to look at opportunities for service transformation with a clear focus on moving to more Psychologically Informed approaches within the current housing and prevention service area and across our commissioned services and supported housing environments. We would be eager to seek guidance and explore opportunities for broader collaborative working on this agenda. | WGov are exploring this on a National basis. Further Training on PIE to be commissioned by WGov. |
| PROJECT 6 Private Rented Rescue Packages | £100,000 | Additional Funding to enable rescue to Failing TPRS Tenancies and enable successful tenancy start up within PRS | An flexible pot of funding to enable a range of Private Sector Rescue activities in an effort to save tenancies as we see the Ban on Evictions lifted in the coming months. Money could be used for but not limited to: Spend to Save on arrears repayments; compensate landlords through repairs works if needed following damage which may result in eviction otherwise; enhanced deposits and up to 6 months’ rent in advance (this could see money come back in through repayments to replenish the pot); management fees for Landlords to work with our Social Lettings Agency Partners | This project was approved as an award, but WGov wanted to reshape the project and suggested we join the PRS Leasing Pathfinder. This would not require the full £100k for this year, but would also place ongoing revenue commitments for FCC for future years. Discussing further with WGov for us to spilt this pot and Fund Project 1: Housing First Remainder of funding could be utilized for PRS activity - TBC |

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| | | | HAWS (Cartrefi Conwy); Potential to lease properties for 6 Months and manage tenancies with a view to Landlord then taking on at the end of the 6 month period; Small grants for Landlords to bring PRS properties into use and in line with HHSRS standards for discharge of duties for suitable accommodation (free for Cat 1 and Cat 2 hazards); any other spend to save activities that may enable the sustainment or positive start up of a tenancy within the PRS. | |
| PROJECT 7 Specialist Debt Advice - CAB | £28,000 | Enhance the existing offer of Specialist Debt Advice services | Offer comprehensive specialist debt advice for households on the back of covid 19. Additional Debt Advice Worker to meet demands for specialist Debt Support and to enable positive start up of new tenancies through Rapid rehousing. We anticipate a significant increase in debt levels post covid 19 and with significant risk to PRS and Home Owners. | Looking to Fund this Project through HSG underspend |
| PROJECT 8 Embedded Caseworker for Housing Advice | £32,000 | Enhance the existing offer of Specialist Housing Advice and Legal Support | To meet the increased need for housing advice, advocacy and representation directly caused by the impacts of Covid-19, in order to contribute to the Welsh Government's vision that homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurrent. Whilst Shelter Cymru have services in every local authority area in Wales, this resource is usually between 0.5 FTE and 1.0 FTE Housing Law Caseworker. Services are consistently oversubscribed in normal circumstances. Due to the impact of | Looking to Fund this Project through HSG underspend |

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| | | | <p>Covid-19, as described above, we anticipate that they will be under considerable additional pressure and will not be able to meet demand. A dedicated 'fast track' service specifically for those threatened with homelessness due to possession of their home and seeking assistance from the local authority will target the resource at those most at risk of homelessness during this period.</p> | |
| <p>PROJECT 9 Project Officer for Young Persons Support Hub</p> | <p>£20,000</p> | <p>Project Development role to help develop a vision and detailed plans for creation of a Young Persons Housing & Homelessness Hub</p> | <p>Using the Grwp Cynefin Denbigh Hub as a template for the development of purpose built accommodation and community facilities for young people within Flintshire. Using this grant to bring in potentially through a secondment an officer who would help FCC and its partners develop a vision and detailed plans for a facility that would provide housing for young people and enable co-location and joint working of staff from across several service areas and offer a one stop shop for young people to access advice and support on housing and other key service and support areas along with accommodation above. Potential to co-locate YJS, Youth Service, Housing first for Young People in this community facility with housing above. Understanding the need and developing a vision for this activity will require additional officer support for project Development and to co-ordinate a larger approach and infrastructure through a Project Board and Steering Group etc.</p> | <p>Not successful with funding for Phase 2. We have a desire to develop a Young Persons Homeless Hub and need to pick this up in the coming months. Capacity within existing services is the issue at present.</p> |

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| <p>PROJECT 10 Mental Health & Wellbeing Outreach Worker</p> | <p>£15,000</p> | <p>Enhance the existing Area Planning Board Capacity for Mental Health & Wellbeing workers</p> | <p>Building additional capacity within the Area Planning Boards Complex Needs Funded Project “Collaborative Outreach”. Additional capacity to appoint extra staff to complete outreach activities and reshape the model to focus on supporting those people who have been “brought in” over the covid response period to enable them to receive ongoing support and access to mental Health and Wellbeing services as they pass through the Rapid Rehousing process and onto sustainable housing. Ensure people have clear pathways into core services and are assisted to access support. This is a project in its infancy in North Wales, Regional Partners see great value and potential in this model. Flintshire is keen to increase capacity as we fear the bulk of focus will be on the challenges in the Wrexham area so bolstering capacity will benefit Flintshire residents and offer dedicated resource for our people.</p> | <p>APB have commissioned CAIS to deliver this activity. Officers to be in post 1st October 2020.</p> |
| <p>PROJECT 11 Criminal Offender Support – Kaleidoscope</p> | <p>£22,000</p> | <p>Increase capacity within existing Tenancy Support service for people with Offending Backgrounds and complex needs</p> | <p>Increase the existing contract due to demand. We are seeing an increase in the amount of referrals coming through for this client group and it is beneficial for the clients to be supported by a specialist provider rather than go to a generic support service. Also with the possibility of people leaving prison early this may also have an impact. Prison Leavers</p> | <p>Officer now in post</p> |

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| | | | are always a challenging cohort. We do not wish to label people as offenders and are mindful of the complex needs of people. A dedicated resource for this cohort offers significant value and benefit to the Prisoner Pathway. | |
| PROJECT 12 Extra Mental Health Provision – Hafal | £9,000 | Increase Mental Health Worker Capacity for Homeless Caseload | FCC currently have a Mental Health Link Liaison Officer working 3 days a week with the Housing Solutions Team and this would enable the service to provide 5 days a week support through increased capacity for the embedded worker from Hafal. This project has been running since April 20 but FCC have found this very beneficial during COVID 19. People who are homeless or have significant housing needs experience significant trauma and the support and advocacy offered through the Hafal Worker has been invaluable. We seek to build upon this initial Pilot which has been valued by colleagues and service users. | Officer now in post |
| PROJECT 13 Empty Homes – Project Management | £40,000 | Create a post that will support Landlords and Property owners who have empty properties to assist them with the Refurbishment Process to bring units back into use | Feedback from our Empty Homes Officer is that many landlords and property owners, whilst eager to take up Empty Homes Loans, they don't have the skills or expertise to manage planned works and refurbishment activities. Having a dedicated resource that would help with landlord engagement, identification of target properties for refurbishment through the Empty homeless Loan Scheme and "project | Positive feedback from WGov but not felt it would offer "direct frontline impact" for Phase 2 and not a priority for the £9.5m Revenue Pot. |

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| | | | management” of refurb. This project would look to increase the numbers of properties brought back into use and would offer the homeless Team Access to high quality self-contained accommodation through long term lease which would then be used as Temporary Accommodation to enable a move away from HMO accommodation. | |
| PROJECT 14 Crisis Renting Ready Training Package | £5,000 | Build a network of staff who are trained in delivering the Crisis Renting Ready Training Package | Identify and train 20 staff across SP, RSL, social care and Homeless Teams who will be trained up to be able to deliver the Crisis Renting Ready Training Package to support principles of “tenancy ready”. Intergrade the package into support plans and deliver the training course to prospective tenants, young people and people already in SP accommodation to assist with evidencing their ability to maintain a tenancy and evidence to PRS landlords their suitability as prospective tenants, whilst also building up tenant confidence for independent living. | Looking to absorb this through HSG Underspend |
| PROJECT 15 Clwyd Alyn and CAIS – Peer Mentoring/Tenancy Sustainability | £50,000 | Sustainability Tenancy Officer and CAIS Drug and Alcohol worker | Develop a model with CAIS to support individuals with multiple complex needs. CAIS provide a full time Peer Mentor that would solely work with individuals from Flintshire and they can usually hold a caseload of around 30 clients at any one time. The Peer Mentoring model is a model that has a proven track record with working with individuals from a homelessness, substance misuse, mental health backgrounds etc. as the Peer Mentor can relate to the | Unsuccessful for Phase 2 and not felt it was an activity we needed to progress through HSG underspend. |

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| | | | <p>clients situation which then builds trust. This would be supplemented by a Tenancy Sustainability Officer that works together with the Peer Mentor. Clwyd Alyn have a Café in Flint where these workers could be based and there has been the development of the ICAN Hub from Flint Library. Both roles would support tenants in accommodation regardless of landlord or tenure. With the level of expertise of both services, it could have a real impact on the successes within Flintshire.</p> | |
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Capital Expenditure @ £1,051,816**All Funding Approved @ £1,051,816**

| Proposed Project | Phase 2 | Objective | Details of Services to be provided |
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| 4 MMC Units in Flint | £391,500 | Capital Project to build 4x 1 bed homes (MMC) | A site has been identified and capital funding would enable to creation of 4x 1 bed self-contained units within Flint. This would increase the availability of 1 bed self-contained stock in an area of high demand. Whilst this may not immediately assist with the covid cohort, this would increase supply of 1 bed self-contained and provide an opportunity to test MMC approaches for Flintshire. We anticipate significant ongoing demand for 1 bed self-contained accommodation so these units could be used as either Temp Accom of a much higher standard than anything currently on offer, or go straight into the general needs stock of FCC Housing Dept. |
| Block Purchase of Self Contained 1 Bed Units | £640,316 | Potential to purchase 10 empty units of 1 bed self contained stock | Potential to purchase existing empty properties and bring into use as Flintshire Council Stock to increase the supply of 1 bed self contained. Alternative models would be to utilize these properties as Temporary Accommodation and move away from the existing HMO environments we have. Another model would be to partner with Support Providers to Lease the units to them and increase units of accommodation for supported housing move on thus creating higher turnover in Supported Housing Settings |
| Domestic Abuse Safety Unit – Women’s Refuge | £20,000 | Office building in the outside land of the refuge to enable to free up a room in the refuge for older children/bigger families. | DASU currently manage a 4 bedroom communal refuge in Flintshire. Currently there is a small staff office on the first floor between 2 bedrooms. The hollow walls are not sound proof and conversations can be heard between all these rooms, meaning confidentiality is hard to maintain. Funding would enable a purpose built outside office space with an additional room to provide extra support facilities and a confidential work space. The need for this space is evident on a daily basis but has been further impacted by COVID, where currently all residents are constantly in the refuge and so a safe confidential space to deliver 1-1 support whilst maintain social distancing is almost impossible. The office is an essential part of our service delivery model. We meet with the residents to complete their safety and support plans at least weekly, discussing complex, confidential issues that are personal to the individual. We also receive referrals and update from other agencies about residents and this information can often be sensitive and personal, so the space to do this confidentially is essential. By moving the office outside we will provide a more independent way of living for the residents, with staff on site but not in their actual home. |

