

DECISION NO:	
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For Member Services use only

Concurrence No:	066369
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APPROVAL FOR ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDING TO FUND A PROJECT

ACTION UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE (Cabinet Minute 8: 2016)

PROJECT: Private Rented Sector Innovation and Enforcement Project

As part of a project to improve standards within the private rented sector and to tackle rogue landlords, the Council wishes to procure a borough wide housing conditions survey. The Building Research Establishment Limited (BRE) is to provide this survey along with a housing stock modelling and integrated database. The database enables the data gained from the survey to be collated into specific reports. The reports will then enable officers to proactively directly target properties of interest with specific interventions. Such targeted intervention will improve standards within the private rented sector and therefore will improve the overall health and wellbeing of the borough.

In addition to procuring the housing conditions survey and the housing stock modelling and integrated database from the BRE, the Council require a designated member of staff to manage the project. The designated officer will be procured from the Oyster Partnership Limited recruitment agency as the Council already has a contract with them and this was procured following the Council's Contract Standing Orders process. Furthermore, the Oyster Partner are the only recruitment agency that could guarantee the placement of a private sector housing officer with the necessary skills for the purpose of this project and for the required 12 week period.

A bid was made to the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government for funds which would enable the Council to undertake the Private Rented Sector Innovation and Enforcement Project.

The bid was successful and the Council has been awarded £58,922 towards funding the project

To allow the grant funding to be used to improve standards within the private rented sector and to tackle rogue landlords a budget of £58,922 (to be fully funded by the grant) is requested. The cost of the service provided by the BRE is to be £42,494, and the cost for funding the private sector housing officer is to be £16,428.

The use of the grant funding will be subject to reports to central government detailing how it has been used and the outputs achieved.

BUDGET ALLOCATION REQUESTED: £58,922

FUNDING AVAILABLE: £58,922

(To be completed by the Financial Services Manager)

Financial Services Manager

Date

Director of Finance

Date

THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

Officer decisions are available for public inspection, both at the Borough Offices and on the Council's website, for a period of six years after the decision is made. Background papers are available for four years.