



Subject:	Response from the Department for Communities re an update on the Council's allocation under the Community Support Programme for the current financial year
Date:	10th August, 2021
Reporting Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer
Contact Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider a response from the Department for Communities re an update on the Council's allocation under the Community Support Programme for the current financial year.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Members of the Committee are asked to recommend that, in accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercise her delegated authority to note the response.

3.0	Main Report
<p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p>	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 13th April, it agreed that the Council write to the Minister for Communities Minister in relation to the future funding for advice services.. A response has now been received on behalf of Minister Hargey, a copy of which is attached.</p> <p>In her correspondence it states that Belfast City Council has been allocated £901,854.30 from the Department’s Community Support Programme in respect of the provision of Advice Services for 2021/22. This funding contains 3 separate elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice Grant: £607.928.42 • Welfare Reform Mitigations - Extension of Face to Face Award Advice: £223,525.88 • Welfare Reform Mitigations - Extension of Tribunal Representations: £70,400.00 <p>A formal letter of offer has been issued to Belfast City Council and funds will be released as set out in the schedule, subject to return of the relevant acceptance documentation.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Copy of response from the Department for Communities.