

Report of Liz Cook, Chief Officer Housing

Report to the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities)

Date: 12/05/15

Subject: Acceptance of Grant for Resettlement Programmes

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: 10.4 (3) Appendix number: 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. Leeds City Council has been approached by the Home Office to resettle refugees as part of national and international resettlement programmes.
2. The resettlement programmes would be funded by the Home Office through grant agreements with Leeds City Council.

Recommendations

3. To agree to accept the grant from the Home Office for resettlement programmes.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The report outlines the proposal for Leeds City Council to accept grants from the Home Office to deliver resettlement programmes in Leeds.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The Home Office and Cabinet Office wrote to all Local Authorities in the UK in 2013 and 2014 requesting participation in resettlement programmes including providing housing, integration and other support to individuals for a limited period of time from entering the UK.
- 2.2 The proposed resettlement programmes will be funded by grant agreements between the Home Office and Leeds City Council.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The total value of the grant agreements will be over £250,000 requiring a key decision for acceptance of the grant
- 3.2 Further information is contained in the confidential appendix

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Consultations have taken place within Leeds City Council with Executive Member (Neighbourhoods, Planning and Personnel) and relevant Chief Officers. Regular consultation in recent months has taken place with the Home Office. Wider consultation has not taken place at this moment in time as it is not appropriate.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 An equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening has been undertaken which concluded that equality has been taken into account, attached as appendix 2.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 Acceptance of the grant will contribute to all the 'Best city...for communities' aims in the Leeds 2030 Vision:
- People are safe and feel safe;
 - The city is clean and welcoming;
 - People are active and involved in their communities; and
 - People get on well together;

It will also contribute to the 'Best city ... for communities' priority to:

- Increase a sense of belonging that builds cohesive and harmonious communities

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 The grant from the Home Office will provide funding for all costs during the period for which Leeds City Council will provide support.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This report contains a confidential appendix.

4.5.2 There are no further specific legal implications arising from this recommendation.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Risk management information is contained in the confidential appendix.

5 Conclusions

5.1 Commencement of the programmes is subject to agreement to accept the grant from the Home Office.

6 Recommendations

6.1 To agree to accept the grant from the Home Office for resettlement programmes.

7 Background documents¹

Appendix 1 – Confidential Report on Resettlement Programmes

Appendix 2 – Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.