

Appendix 2

Corporate Grants Register

Government Grant Funding of Local Expenditure

1. Cheshire East Council receives two main types of Government grants; specific use grants and general purpose grants. The overall total of Government grant budgeted for in 2020/21 was £254.8m.
2. In 2020/21 Cheshire East Council's specific use grants held within the services was budgeted to be £233.2m based on Government announcements to February 2020. At mid-year, this figure was revised up to £241.1m.
3. Mid-year has seen an increase in specific use grants of £7.9m. This is due to a £5.3m grant for Covid-19 Infection Control, £1.5m for a Covid-19 Test, Track and Contain grant, £0.8m for Covid-19 Towns Fund, £0.8m Covid-19 Active Travel and a £0.8m increase in the Public Health Grant. This has been off-set by an adjustment for High Needs Deduction in Schools-related grants. Requests for the allocation of the additional grants received are detailed in **Table 1**.
4. There has also been a reduction in Housing Benefit Subsidy of £1.4m. This grant recompenses the authority for monies which have been paid out to housing benefit claimants and therefore there is a corresponding reduction, the net effect of which is nil.
5. Spending in relation to specific use grants must be in line with the purpose for which it is provided.
6. In the Chancellors Budget on 11 March, two business grant schemes were announced to provide support for businesses as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.
7. The Small Business Grant Fund (SBGF) is payable to small businesses – essentially those who are currently eligible for Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR) and Rural Rate Relief (RRR). The amount was increased from £3,000 in the Budget to £10,000 in the Chancellor's statement on 17 March.
8. The Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant (RHLG) is payable to smaller businesses in this sector, with £10,000 for businesses with rateable values of less than £15,000, and £25,000 for those with rateable values between £15,000 and £51,000 (i.e. those on the Small Business Rate Multiplier).
9. At the beginning of April, Cheshire East was paid £95.5m to passport directly to eligible businesses and by the end of July there had been payments made of £84.6m. The scheme will officially close at the end of August 2020 and any unspent grant will be repaid to central government.
10. General purpose grants were budgeted to be £21.6m. Further in-year grant announcements have increased the amount received to £105.6m.
11. The Covid-19 pandemic has seen additional financial support issued by Central Government.
12. The Government announced in the Budget on 29 October 2018 that it would provide a Business Rates Retail Discount,

to apply in the years 2019/20 and 2020/21. In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, in the Budget on 11 March the Government announced that it would increase the discount to 100% and extend it to include the leisure and hospitality sectors. Following the announcement on 23 March 2020 of further measures to limit the spread of Coronavirus, the Government confirmed that some of the exclusions for this relief have been removed, so that retail, leisure, and hospitality properties that will have had to close as a result of the restriction measures were also eligible for the relief.

13. The estimated full cost for this additional relief for Cheshire East was £58.8m. Usually, local authorities would only be paid their Business Rates Retention share (49%) of any new burdens measures, but in this instance 100% of the funding is being paid to councils to help with cash flow shortfalls. At the end of the financial year, following a detailed reconciliation, the share relating to MHCLG (50%) will be repaid to Government.
14. Other, significant in-year Covid-19 general purpose grants received include £13.3m of Emergency Funding, £2.1m of Council Tax Hardship Funding and Emergency Active Travel Funding.
15. Additional general purpose grants of £0.7m have also been received during the year to date. These include an additional

£0.4m in respect of Children and Families related grants, £0.2m for Place related grants and £0.1m of Corporate related grants. Requests for the allocation of the additional grants received are detailed in **Table 1**.

16. During the quarter service budgets have also been increased by a further £66,668 as a result of an officer decision record. This relates to Environmental Service Feasibility Study (NW Local Energy Hub) funding.
17. Business Rates 'Tax Loss Compensation grants' of £9.2m have also been received during 2020/21. This grant reimburses the Council for providing extra discounts to businesses in line with government guidance. £4.2m of the grant is required to fund services and is included as part of the revenue budget approved in February 2020. The remaining amount will be transferred to the Collection Fund Management earmarked reserve at year end in accordance with the Reserves Strategy.
18. **Table 2** below shows a summary of Covid-19 grants that have already received approval. **Table 3** provides a summary of the updated budget position for grants in 2020/21 by type and service. Further details of grants are shown in **Table 4** Corporate Grants Register.

Table 1 – Requests for Allocation of Additional Grant Funding

Service	Type of Grant	£000	Details
Central Budgets	Covid-19 Business Support Grant (Specific Purpose)	91,227	Funding provided to local authorities to passport directly to eligible businesses applying for business support grants due to the pandemic. Note a further £4.287m already approved in Table 2.
Central Budgets	Covid-19 Emergency Funding Tranches 2 and 3 (General Purpose)	13,251	The Covid-19 Emergency Funding is additional grant received due to the rising costs caused by the pandemic.
Central Budgets	Covid-19 Business Rate Holiday (Specific Purpose)	58,786	Eligible businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors in England will not have to pay business rates for the 2020 to 2021 tax year. This grant compensates local authorities for the business rates income not received. The grant has been received based on 100% of the discount value to help local authority cash flow situations. A reconciliation will be undertaken at the end of the year to pay back MHCLGs 50% share of this funding accordingly.
Central Budgets	Covid-19 Council Tax Hardship (Specific Purpose)	2,063	New grant funding to support economically vulnerable people and households in their local area.
Allocation For Council Approval		165,327	
Place	Covid-19 Emergency Active Travel Fund (Specific Purpose)	774	To develop and deliver a borough-wide programme of Active Travel measures to support Covid-19 recovery by improving active travel provision for workplaces, schools and town centres. £155,000 has been received and £619,000 is pending.
Allocation For Cabinet Approval		774	

Service	Type of Grant	£000	Details
Corporate	Covid-19 Emergency Assistance Grant for Food & Essential Supplies (Specific Purpose)	326	This grant is for local authorities in England to use to support people who are struggling to afford food and other essentials due to Covid-19.
Corporate	Covid-19 Local Authority Discretionary Grant (Specific Purpose)	170	This grant is intended to fund costs incurred in the administration of business support grants including staff costs, software updates, print & postage and other 3 rd party support.
Place	Covid-19 Reopening High Streets Safely (Specific Purpose)	340	This additional funding is to support the safe reopening of high streets and other commercial areas. The money will allow local authorities in England to put in place additional measures to establish a safe trading environment for businesses and customers, particularly in high streets, through measures that extend to the end of March 2021.
Place	Covid-19 Bus Support Restart (Specific Purpose)	157	This funding is available to increase capacity on buses in order to help keep passengers safe during the Covid-19 crisis, and also to prepare for a recovering economy.
Place	Covid-19 Local Bus Network (Specific Purpose)	180	Additional support for bus services that have been affected by, or need to be adjusted because of, the impact of Covid-19. Conditions apply and any underspend will need to be returned to DfT.
People – Children & Families	Covid-19 Wellbeing for Education Return (Specific Purpose)	55	This grant seeks to better equip schools and colleges to promote children and young people’s wellbeing, resilience, and recovery in response to Covid-19.
People – Children & Families	Covid-19 Home to School Transport (Specific Purpose)	295	Thousands of students will be supported with new dedicated school and college transport to get them to school or college in the Autumn term. This funding will help them create extra capacity and allow hundreds of

Service	Type of Grant	£000	Details
			thousands more students to use alternatives to public transport, while social distancing measures remain in place.
People – Children & Families	Extended Rights to Free Transport (General Purpose)	201	The Department for Education provides additional transport funding to local authorities to support children from low-income families to be able to attend schools further from home than the statutory walking distances. The funding is paid as a non-ring-fenced grant paid via the Department for Communities and Local Government under the Local Services Support Grant (section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003).
People – Children & Families	Staying Put Implementation (General Purpose)	113	The purpose of the grant is to provide support for local authorities in England for expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them, in respect of a young person aged 18 and their former foster carer, who wish to continue living together in a ‘Staying Put’ arrangement. For the purposes of this grant ‘young person’ means a former relevant child who was looked after immediately prior to their 18 th birthday. This supported arrangement can continue until the young person’s 21 st birthday.
People – Children & Families	Extended Personal Advisor Duty Implementation (General Purpose)	42	The purpose of the grant is to support Local Authorities in England to meet the requirements of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, requiring them to offer Personal Adviser support to all care leavers up to the age of 25. The grant is to support those young people that may request support from the Local Authority after the age of 21 and up to the age of their 25 th birthday. The grant has been provided to meet the extra demand for personal adviser time that the new duties create. The new duty provides the Local Authority the ability to respond positively to requests for support from care leavers who may have difficulties and be struggling to transition to adulthood.
People – Adult Social Care & Health	Independent Living Fund (General Purpose)	43	Following the closure of the Independent Living Fund (ILF) in June 2015, the government agreed to continue funding pre-existing ILF arrangements until the end of 2019 to 2020, through the former ILF recipient grant. On the 20 th December 2019, the government confirmed that that the former ILF recipient grant will continue to be paid to local authorities in 2020 to 2021.

Service	Type of Grant	£000	Details
			The total value of the grant in 2020 to 2021 will be maintained and this additional funding allocation is to cover the cost of the payments made to clients for the ILF, increasing it to the level of the actual 2020/21 grant, which is £42,776 higher than originally forecast in the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
Place	Neighbourhood Planning Grant for Local Planning Authorities (General Purpose)	100	The conditions of grant mean that this funding could be used across the wider Spatial Planning area.
Place	Homelessness Reduction Act (General Purpose)	116	The Minister for Local Government is providing local authorities with new burdens funding following the introduction of the Homelessness Reduction Act. The Homelessness Reduction Act places new statutory duties on Local Authorities.
Place	Letting Agents Transparency & Redress Schemes (General Purpose)	1	This grant is to fund additional monitoring responsibilities within Strategic Housing in respect of letting agents.
Corporate	Individual Electoral Registration (General Purpose)	34	The funding is to be used on activities associated with Individual Electoral Registration (IER) services within the Electoral Services area. Successful delivery of IER as per statutory requirements. Increased number of registered electors in advance of elections and referendums. Improved accuracy of the information held on our electoral database. Increased public trust in the registration system and encourage people to take responsibility for their own inclusion on the Electoral Register and their participation in elections and referendums.
Total Allocation less than £500,000		2,173	
Total Allocation 2020/21		168,274	

Table 2 - Summary of Covid-19 Grants already Approved

Service	Type of Grant	£000	Details
Public Health	Covid-19 Infection Control (Specific Purpose)	5,320	The primary purpose of this fund is to support adult social care providers, including those with whom the local authority does not have a contract, to reduce the rate of Covid-19 transmission in and between care homes and support wider workforce resilience.
Public Health	Covid-19 Test, Track and Contain (Specific Purpose)	1,533	The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred in relation to the mitigation against and management of local outbreaks of Covid-19.
Place	Covid-19 Towns Fund (Specific Purpose)	750	The Towns Fund works with places to address growth constraints and to chart a path of recovery from the impact of Covid-19. The overarching aim of the Towns Fund is to drive the sustainable economic regeneration of towns to deliver long term economic and productivity growth.
Central Budgets	Covid-19 Business Support Grant (Specific Purpose)	4,287	Funding provided to local authorities to passport directly to eligible businesses applying for business support grants due to the pandemic.

Urgent decisions made following Member consultation

Date	Summary of decision	Decision on behalf of	Members, MO/S151 consulted/ content?	Status
26 05 20	Covid-19 Discretionary Grant Fund: approval of supplementary revenue estimate of funds made available from Government, to make payments to businesses in the sum of £4,287,250. Delegation of the design and implementation of a policy and scheme for the distribution of funds.	Council	Yes	Decision made and Members notified
08 06 20	Approval of supplementary revenue estimate of £5.32m relating to the Covid-19 Infection Prevention Fund for Local Authorities' allocation for Cheshire East Council. Authorisation of the distribution of the first 75% of the Grant to eligible care home providers in the Cheshire East Borough in accordance with the DoHSC Grant conditions. Delegated authority to utilise the 25% balance of the Grant to support the wider care market with Infection Control measures.	Council	Yes	Decision made and Members notified

Urgent decisions made by the Chief Executive relating to Covid-19 funding under general delegation dated 2 July 2020

Date	Summary of decision	MO/S151 consulted	Status
07 07 20	Acceptance of the offer of the £750,000 Town Fund allocation for Crewe; agree a Supplementary Capital Estimate; expenditure delegated to the Executive Director of Place, subject to first consulting the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Regeneration.	Yes	Decision made and all Members notified on 08 07 20
08 07 20	<p>Test and Trace: Acceptance of the Council's allocated grant of £1.53m. Authorisation of a Supplementary Revenue Estimate, for the 2020/21 Financial Year, of £1.53m. Authorisation of the Executive Director-People, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Corporate Services, to distribute the grant in accordance with the conditions which have been attached to it.</p>	Yes	Decision made and all Members notified on 08 07 20 Further clarification provided to all Members on 10 th July 2020 that the previous reference to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health had been corrected.

Table 3 - Summary of Grants

	Original Budget	Revised Forecast MYR	Change from Original Budget
	2020/21 £m	2020/21 £m	2020/21 £m
SPECIFIC USE			
Held within Services	233.2	241.1	7.9
GENERAL PURPOSE			
Business Support Grant	0.0	95.5	95.5
Service Funding:			
People - Childrens and Families	0.0	0.4	0.4
People - Adult Social Care and Health	8.7	8.8	0.1
Place	0.0	0.3	0.3
Corporate	12.8	28.1	15.3
Central Items	0.0	68.0	68.0
TOTAL GENERAL PURPOSE	21.5	201.1	179.6
TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	254.7	442.2	187.5

Table 3 – Corporate Grants Register

Corporate Grants Register 2020/21		Original Budget	Revised Forecast MYR	Change from Original Budget	Treatment of Grant
	<i>Note</i>	2020/21 £000	2020/21 £000	2020/21 £000	<i>Notes 2 & 3</i>
SPECIFIC USE (Held within Services)					
PEOPLE					
Schools	1	151,887	150,438	(1,449)	
Children and Families		1,759	2,021	262	
Adult Social Care		12,637	17,958	5,321	
Public Health		15,967	18,291	2,324	
Total		182,250	188,708	6,458	
PLACE					
Growth and Enterprise		263	1,572	1,309	
Directorate		787	1,897	1,110	
Total		1,050	3,469	2,419	
CORPORATE					
Finance and Customer Services		49,878	48,945	(933)	
Total		49,878	48,945	(933)	
TOTAL SPECIFIC USE		233,178	241,122	7,944	

Corporate Grants Register 2020/21		Original Budget	Revised Forecast MYR	Change from Original Budget	Treatment of Grant
	<i>Note</i>	2020/21 £000	2020/21 £000	2020/21 £000	<i>Notes 2 & 3</i>
GENERAL PURPOSE (Held Corporately)					
Central Funding					
Business Support Grant		0	95,514	95,514	Balances
People - Children and Families					
Staying Put Implementation Grant		0	113	113	SRE
Extended Rights to Free Transport (Home to School Transport)		0	201	201	SRE
Extended Personal Adviser Duty Implementation		0	42	42	SRE
People - Adult Social Care and Health					
Social Care Support Grant		7,616	7,616	0	
Independent Living Fund		818	861	43	SRE
Local Reform & Community Voices, Social Care in Prisons and War Pension Scheme Disregard		340	340	0	
Place					
Neighbourhood Planning Grant for Local Planning Authorities		0	100	100	SRE
Homelessness Reduction Act		0	116	116	SRE
Letting Agents Transparency & Redress Schemes		0	1	1	SRE
Environmental Service Feasibility Study (NW Local Energy Hub)		0	67	67	ODR

Corporate Grants Register 2020/21	Original Budget	Revised Forecast MYR	Change from Original Budget	Treatment of Grant
<i>Note</i>	2020/21 £000	2020/21 £000	2020/21 £000	<i>Notes 2 & 3</i>
GENERAL PURPOSE (Held Corporately)				
Corporate				
Housing Benefit and Council Tax Administration	1,027	1,022	(5)	Balances
NNDR Administration Allowance	571	571	0	
New Homes Bonus	11,193	11,193	0	
Individual Electoral Registration	0	34	34	SRE
COVID-19 Emergency Funding (Tranche 2)	0	10,539	10,539	Balances
COVID-19 Emergency Funding (Tranche 3)	0	2,712	2,712	Balances
COVID-19 Council Tax Hardship Fund	0	2,063	2,063	Balances
Central Items				
COVID-19 Additional Business Rates Reliefs payments for 2020/21	0	58,786	58,786	Reserves
Business Rates Reliefs Grant 2020/21	0	4,988	4,988	Reserves
Business Rates Reliefs Grant 2020/21	0	4,200	4,200	General Fund
Total Service Funding	21,565	105,565	84,000	
TOTAL GENERAL PURPOSE	21,565	201,079	179,514	
TOTAL GRANT FUNDING	254,743	442,201	187,458	

Notes

1 The Dedicated Schools Grant, Pupil Premium Grant, Sixth Form Grant and Other School Specific Grant from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) figures are based on actual anticipated allocations. Changes are for in-year increases/decreases to allocations by the DfE and conversions to academy status.

2 SRE - Supplementary Revenue Estimate requested by relevant service.

3 ODR - Officer Decision Record to approve immediate budget change to relevant service.