

New Expenditure Proposals for the Medium Term Financial Strategy



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

1. Service: Environmental Health – Housing Improvement Grants	2. Submitted by: Dale Robinson
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3. Brief Description of the proposal:
Increase the capital programme to fund the increasing demand for Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants.

4. Costs (£000s) (Please indicate C for capital; R for revenue)					
Detail	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2010/11	2011/2012
Disabled Facilities Grant Capital	£70K C	£70K C	£70K C	£70K C	£100K C
Total Costs:	£70K C	£70K C	£70K C	£70K C	£100K C

5. Reason for bid:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inescapable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Related to one or more of the three priorities

6. Policy Justification:
This is in line with current policy and Statutory duty to provide.
Adapting a home under statutory grant can make it an affordable option for clients.

7. Benefit for service users/public:
Adaptation works improve the quality of life of clients and, for child cases, their families too. Special adaptations funded by Disabled Facilities grants may help disabled people avoid the need to move from their village.
Disabled adaptations are often needed to allow people to remain their own homes, (rather than requiring specialist accommodation), or to return home after a stay in hospital thereby providing a more sustainable solution.

8. Impact on Performance Indicators:			
Performance Indicator		Estimated performance in 2006/07	Estimated improved performance in 2007/08
#	Description		
SE220	ODPM set – Average weeks taken between first contact and first visit	<3 weeks	Maintenance of performance
SE218	ODPM set – Average weeks taken to complete works of value < £1000	17 weeks	Maintenance of performance
SE219	ODPM set – Average weeks taken to complete works of value > £1000	42 weeks	Maintenance of performance

9. Implications if not approved:

Breach of statutory duty: - Under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996, SCDC is under a statutory duty to provide DFG's. The obligation to provide DFG's to eligible applicants for eligible work (subject to a test of applicants resources, where applicable) is primary and absolute.

Vulnerable adults and children will be left in inadequate housing conditions.

Performance against Supporting people and ODPM targets will drop.

Reputation as a caring Council will be called into question.