



Doncaster Council

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS - DECISION RECORD

The following decision was taken on the 8th March 2022 by:-

Councillor Rachael Blake, Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities

Date notified to all Members: 9th March 2022

End of the call-in period is 5.00 p.m. on the 18th March 2022. This decision will not be implemented until after this date and time.

Present: Councillor Rachel Blake and Phil Holmes (Director – Adults, Health & Well-Being)

Apologies: None

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE

Refugee Relocation & Resettlement Scheme Funding

2. DECISION TAKEN

- I. To accept the proposed estimated funding allocation of the value up to £2m across 7 financial years
- II. Given the depth of the humanitarian crisis the Government has approached all Local Authorities to pledge to take additional families from the ACRS in 2022/23 as part of the fair share scheme where Local Authorities have pledged to take families based on the size of their population. To pledge to take a further 5 families through the ACRS in 2022/23 in addition to the estimated total of 67 Individuals (breakdown of allocations in the background section below) to be resettled in Doncaster and a total of 131 in temporary residence at the bridging hotel; and
- III. To delegate decisions in respect of any further additional funding and changes linked to these existing schemes to the Director of Adults, Health and Well-Being, the Portfolio Lead for Children's Social Care, Communities and Equalities and the Assistant Director of Finance (Section 151 officer).

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

This would allow us to accept families through a controlled process, with the appropriate funding support available, was seen as the best option as it would allow Doncaster to play its part in the response to humanitarian crises in a way that would minimize the impact on the wider community and help families integrate as quickly as possible.



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4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- I. To accept the funding from Central Government, but not take the additional 5 Afghan families in 2022/23 through the ACRS, leaving other local authorities to offer homes to families fleeing the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan
This will allow the Council to deliver each scheme as outlined to provide appropriate wrap around support for those families fleeing Humanitarian Crises to demonstrate the Council's commitment to care for those that are vulnerable and to support equality and diversity without putting undue pressure on Council services that are already working at capacity.

- II. To not accept the funding. As some of the families are already in Doncaster, this would mean that the Local Authority would be supporting these families at its own cost with existing resources and capacity which are already stretched and under pressure.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Not applicable

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not exempt

7. RESPECTIVE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Phil Holmes, Director- Adults, Health & Well-Being

Signed



Decision Maker