
REPORT TO:	COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 9
DATE OF MEETING:	21 st FEBRUARY 2002	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	SANDRA WHILES	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	MARK ALFLAT Ext 5716	DOC:
SUBJECT:	CHANGES TO THE MAXIMUM LIMIT FOR DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS	REF: DB/02
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: CS02

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 To increase the maximum limit for mandatory Disabled Facility Grants to £25 000, with effect from the 21st January 2002 and allow delegated approval by the Divisional Environmental Health Manager to the new maximum limit.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To seek approval to increase the maximum amount for a mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant from £20 000 to £25 000 with effect from 21st January 2002, in accordance with The Disabled Facilities Grants and Home Repair Assistance (Maximum Amounts) (Amendment No.2) (England) Order 2001 and allow delegated approval by the Divisional Environmental Health Manager.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The maximum amount of financial assistance that can be granted for a mandatory Disabled Facilities grant is prescribed by Order, by the Secretary of State under Part I of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996.
- 3.2 The previous maximum amount of £20 000 has now been increased to £25 000, with effect from 21st January 2002.
- 3.3 The Divisional Environmental Health Manager has delegated powers to approve mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants to the maximum amount.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The increased maximum amount may result in fewer, but larger grants being approved from the limited grant budget. The Council does not accrue a fee for Disabled Facilities Grants and grant fee income will be unaffected by the change to the maximum limit.

5.0 Community Implications

5.1 Disabled Facilities Grants provide for alterations, adaptations and new build works to enable a disabled occupant access, in and around their home. The increase to the maximum amount will allow for full funding of larger projects in the district, where the need arises.

6.0 Background Papers

6.1 The Disabled Facilities Grants and Home Repair Assistance (Maximum Amounts)(Amendment No.2)(England) Order 2001.