

## Officer decision record

Officer: Rachael Mann, Director (Resources and Property)	Service: Resources and Property
<p><b>Delegated power being exercised</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On 19 December 2022, the Government announced the Energy Bills Support Scheme – Alternative Fund (EBSS AF), which is supported by the Energy Prices Act 2022, provides £400 of support for households not automatically eligible for support through the Energy Bills Support Scheme (£400 payments made directly by utility providers). (Government announcement: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/vital-help-with-energy-bills-on-the-way-for-millions-more-homes-across-great-britain-and-northern-ireland">Vital help with energy bills on the way for millions more homes across Great Britain and Northern Ireland - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>)</li> <li>2. Eligible households are likely to include:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) park home residents</li> <li>b) housing association, social and private tenants, and leaseholders, supplied through a landlord with a commercial meter</li> <li>c) partly and wholly self-funded care home residents</li> <li>d) households in house boats on residential moorings</li> <li>e) households on a private electricity network, for example those supplied by a heat network</li> <li>f) off-grid households</li> <li>g) traveller households on authorised sites</li> <li>h) households who live in a dwelling on business premises that is used wholly or partly for domestic purposes</li> <li>i) households in temporary or supported accommodation</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. <b>In accordance with the officer scheme of delegation, through the management of Anglia Revenues Partnership, the Director of Resources and Property has taken the decision to implement the Government scheme as a fully funded initiative.</b></li> <li>4. <b>This delegated power is being exercised through this decision in order to deliver the EBSS AF scheme in West Suffolk through which grants will be paid to eligible residents.</b></li> </ol>	
Subject of decision	<p>A decision on the implementation of the Energy Bills Support Scheme – Alternative Fund following the allocation of funding from Government.</p> <p>West Suffolk will also be a beta/pilot scheme, which means the scheme will be launched just over a week earlier than the national scheme launch.</p>

Decision taken (specify precise details)	To use the following approach to allocate the EBSS AF payments to households: 1. To replicate the Government eligibility criteria for the scheme, as set out in the Government guidance [not published at this point] 2. For the scheme to be administered by Anglia Revenues Partnership
Reasons for the decision (specify all reasons for taking the decision including, where necessary, reference to council policy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councils are required to implement the Government's prescribed arrangements for distributing the EBSS AF funding from Government.</li> <li>• The funding is critical to supporting householders who are impacted by rising energy prices and who are not eligible for the main EBSS support</li> <li>• This decision was within the delegation given to the Director for Resources and Property</li> </ul>
Alternative options considered (if appropriate)	No other options were considered as local authorities are required by Government to administer the scheme
Background/reports/information considered and attached (legal, personnel, financial implications and so on)	Government guidance to local authorities on the Energy Bills Support Scheme Alternative Fund: [not published at this point]
Parties consulted before the decision has been taken	Resources and Property Portfolio Holder. Cabinet members informed.
Conflicts of interest declared by executive members consulted, including whether the Chief Executive has authorised councillors with conflicts to continue to act	None
Decision	To make available funding to households based on the EBSS AF scheme criteria
Signature and date  <b><i>Rachael Mann</i></b> 20 January 2023	