



REPORT TO: COUNCIL

DATE: 3 SEPTEMBER 2015

REPORT OF THE: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
JANET WAGGOTT

TITLE OF REPORT: FUNDING FOR CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members following the presentation given by Sue Bywater, Janet Sharp and David Brown from Ryedale Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) The presentation was held on Monday 3 August 2015 and is attached at **Annex A**.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Council agree to allocate the provision of the additional £35k to Ryedale CAB.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Ryedale CAB will be unable to continue to operate after October 2015 unless additional resources are made available.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 The presentation given by the Ryedale CAB made it clear that the current financial position is fragile and that the Ryedale CAB require the additional financial allocation of up to £35k (which was made at Budget Council on 24 February 2015) in order to maintain the necessary cash flow and the services used and valued by a number of Ryedale residents.
- 4.2 In addition it was also made clear that whilst efforts had been put in to apply for other sources of “core funding” this funding was not guaranteed. It is therefore possible that the Ryedale CAB may be in a similar position next year (2016/17) and could require future financial support. If this is necessary this will be the subject of a further report to the Policy and Resources Committee.

REPORT

5.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 5.1 Members resolved at Full Council on 24 February 2015 to make a provision for funding Ryedale CAB up to £35K for the year 2015/16 from the New Homes Bonus and that officers work up to a formal proposal to support core funding for Ryedale CAB going forward.
- 5.2 This was brought to Policy and Resources Committee on 18 June 2015 where it was recommended to Council to delay the additional provision of £35k to the Ryedale CAB until they have presented their business case and forward plan beyond 2015/16 to Members of the Policy and Resources Committee. The presentation took place on 3 August 2015 where all Members were invited to attend.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The following implications have been identified:
- a) Financial
The additional resource of £35k will enable the Ryedale CAB to operate until the end of the 2015/2016 financial year. There is a risk that the operational shortfall will continue into future years unless a more permanent solution is found which is not dependent on Local Authority funding.
 - b) Supporting Vulnerable People
Failure to offer additional financial support to the Ryedale CAB could result in vulnerable residents of Ryedale being unable to access necessary advice, support and services at difficult times of need.

7.0 NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 The progress of the Ryedale CAB's ability to attract additional funding (other than local authority funding) will be reported to a future meeting of Policy and Resources Meeting.

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Background Papers:

Presentation 3 August 2015

Policy and Resources Committee 18 June 2015 report - Funding for Citizens Advice Bureau