

REPORT TO: COVID-19 RECOVERY WORKING GROUP

DATE: 22 OCTOBER 2020

TITLE: FUNDING ALLOCATIONS: RECOVERY BUDGETS

LEAD OFFICERS: SENIOR MANAGEMENT BOARD (01279) 446004

RECOMMENDED that subject to any amendments agreed by the Working Group it is recommended to Cabinet that:

- A** The process for the approval of the allocated funding for Recovery measures is approved as set out in Appendix A to the report.
- B** That the proposed allocation criteria, set out in Appendix B to the report, be approved.
- C** Final allocation of the recovery budget is delegated to Work Stream lead officers in consultation with Workstream appointed Councillors and the relevant Portfolio Holder.

BACKGROUND

1. The Council has approved the allocation of £150,000 to Covid-19 recovery. This report brings forward a suggested methodology and criteria for budget allocation and an appropriate delegation to officers.
2. The report also suggests criteria as a guide to officers in allocating that funding.

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

3. The Cabinet in approving the allocation of funding did not specify the mechanism for considering requests to access the funding pot for recovery measure. Officers consider that there may be a number of sources of request to access the funding all which would be considered by the relevant Workstream.
4. It is anticipated that any work brought forward through the HTS Workstream would be addressed using HTS resources.
5. The process for allocating the funding needs to be robust and transparent to allow all parties and Workstreams to operate in a consistent manner. The proposed method, set out in Appendix A, is consistent with that used to allocate grant aid funding.
6. It is proposed that for each request, the Workstream Groups will undertake an assessment based on the criteria and make recommendations to the Officer

Recovery Board (which meets weekly) for a decision. The Covid-19 Recovery WG would be updated with regard to the approved funding allocations.

7. Following a Recovery Board approval, Officers would then implement and monitor projects and require formal output evaluation. The Cabinet would receive details of project via the Working Group minutes.
8. Recommendation C is required to delegate implementation to Workstream Lead Officers. Requests which may fall outside of the budget framework would require Council approval.

IMPLICATIONS

Environment and Planning (Includes Sustainability)

As set out in the reports to the working group

Author: Andrew Bramidge, Head of Environment and Planning

Finance (Includes ICT, and Property and Facilities)

As set out in the reports to the working group

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance and Property and Deputy to the Chief Executive

Housing

As set out in the report

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

As set out in the report

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

As set out in the report, the delegation of funding is a matter for the Cabinet to approve.

Author: Simon Hill, Head of Governance

Appendices

Appendix A – Suggested Process for Allocation of Recovery funding

Appendix B – Proposed Allocation Criteria

Background Papers

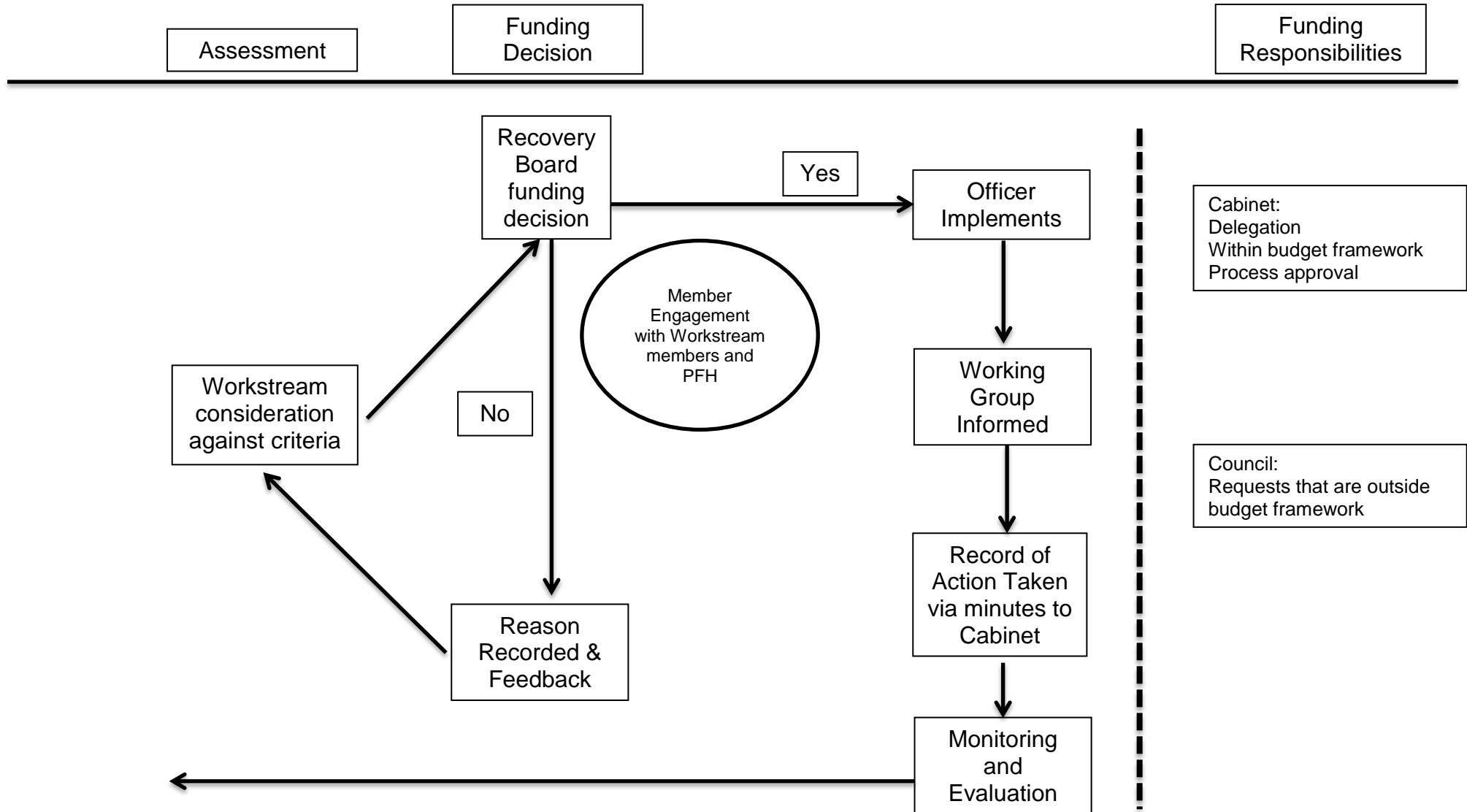
None, the previous report to the working on governance set out the relative responsibilities of officers and the working group, within its approved terms of reference.

Glossary of Terms/Abbreviations Used

None.

Appendix A

Suggested Process for Allocation of Recovery funding



Proposed Allocation Criteria

- (i) The proposal has clearly defined outcomes which contributes to strategic priorities within the Recovery Workstream action plan;
- (ii) The proposed activity meets a clearly identified unmet need;
- (iii) The proposal is not otherwise funded by the Council or public purse (ie no betterment) and provides value for money;
- (iv) If to be externally provided, the organisation:
 - a. Has audited accounts and is solvent; and
 - b. Would be able to meet procurement and policy requirements; and
 - c. Has a track record of project delivery; and
 - d. Is able to provide outcome evaluation