



Subject:	Belfast Advice Group, Citywide Tribunal Services Funding 2020/21
Date:	24 th April 2020
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services Ryan Black, Director, Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Brian Kelly, Community Services Unit Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek permission from members to progress the allocation of £145,400 towards the provision of the Belfast Citywide Tribunal Services
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider and agree the funding allocation based on the recommended levels provided in this report.Note the offer of an additional £70,400.00 funding from DfC specifically relating Welfare Reform Mitigations Extension- Tribunal Representations.Approve officers to progress with the funding allocation process and funding agreement with Belfast Advice Group.

3.0	Main report
3.1	For a number of years Council has provided support on a nonrecurring basis to Belfast Advice Group (BAG) for the provision of a Citywide Tribunal Service.
3.2	BAG approached Council with a request to support the tribunal service in 2020/21.
3.3	The request was considered by Committee in February and by Council in March. It was agreed that that the decision of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 21st February, under the heading “Financial Reporting – Quarter 3 2019/20”, be amended to provide that funding of £75k be awarded to the Belfast Advice Group (Belfast Tribunal Service) to cover the period from April 2020 to June 2020
3.4	On the 3 rd April Council received its Letter of Offer from DfC in relation to the Community Support Programme 2020/21. This year an additional £70,400 was allocated for Welfare Reform Mitigations Extension-Tribunal Representation. As this was in the same letter of offer as the Covid 19 funding, the Chief Executive wrote to the Party Group Leaders to inform them of this additional allocation and outlined that it would be allocated to the existing recipient.
3.5	Members are asked to consider and agree to use this additional allocation towards the provision of the Citywide Tribunal Service.
3.6	Should members agree, the proposed total allocation for the provision of the service will be £145,400.00.
3.7	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>Total contribution is £145,400.00 - £75,000 agreed by Council and £70,400 secured from DfC</p>
3.8	<p><u>Human</u></p> <p>This will be covered within Community Provision Work Plan</p>
3.9	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

