



Service Delivery Committee	Tuesday, 05 July 2016	Matter for Decision
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Title: **Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG's) and The Lightbulb Project**

Author: **Stephen Glazebrook - Interim Community Services Manager**

1. Introduction

- 1.1. In October 2015 Service Delivery Committee resolved that options for the Council to join the Lightbulb Project as a means of delivering Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG's) be explored further with a view to joining the project as soon as possible and subject to a further report containing all the necessary details and assurances.
- 1.2. Subsequently it was decided to test out the Lightbulb Project by referring 2 pilot schemes to them. They were passed 2 DFG applications for level access showers which were the only suitable available projects at the time,

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Members consider whether in light of the pre business case that has been submitted and the feedback from the pilot schemes they wish to join Lightbulb to administer DFG's and adaptations to the Councils' housing stock.

3. Information

- 3.1. Lightbulb have now submitted their pre business case for transforming practical housing support and this is attached at **Appendix A**. The Executive Summary on page 3 sets out the vision for delivering the new service.
- 3.2. With regard to the 2 pilot schemes, one did not proceed due to customer choice and the other was completed in a satisfactory and timely manner with no issues. It is worth noting that other pilot schemes have also been satisfactorily completed within the other Districts in the County.
- 3.3. There have been some concerns raised by Members about OWBC's funds being spent in other Districts and Lightbulb have confirmed that expenditure will be ring fenced to ensure that this does not occur.
- 3.4. In summary the Lightbulb model aims to provide:
 - A one stop shop providing a range of practical housing support solutions across all tenures which would also include carrying out adaptations to Council owned properties.
 - A common holistic needs assessment process.
 - A broader, targeted offer of practical housing support.
- 3.5. The Council's costs will be reduced as the administration of DFG's will be dealt with by Lightbulb and there will also be a saving in dealing with adaptations to tenanted properties. The timeframe for dealing with applications for DFG's and other services should be reduced which is supported by the performance information from Lightbulb

which shows their turnaround times to be quicker than those being achieved by the districts currently.

- 3.6. To give Members a more detailed insight in to the proposal a representative from Lightbulb will be present at the meeting to present their business case and answer any questions that Members may have.

Email: stephen.glazebrook@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

Tel: (0116) 257 2674

Implications	
Financial [CR]	CR1 Decreasing Financial Resources – This may affect the Council’s ability to top up Disabled Facilities Grants.
Legal [AC]	No significant legal implications.
Risk [SG]	CR4 Reputation Damage - Failure by Lightbulb to provide or reduce services.
Equalities [SG]	The Lightbulb service will provide equality of access for all regardless of tenure.
	Equality Assessment
	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Screening <input type="checkbox"/> Full Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable