

## Appendix 2 Disabled Facility Grant funding

- The Better Care Fund (BCF) provides financial support from central government for councils and NHS organisations to jointly plan and deliver local services. This includes funding for Disabled Facilities Grants, which is paid directly to local authorities.
- In 2016-17, there has been a specific distribution formula for allocating the Disabled Facilities Grant element of the Better Care Fund to local areas, which has in general resulted in an increased funding allocation. This is partly to address the inequality in local authority supplementation of the government funding (some local authorities do not provide any additional funding on top of the government grant). The increase also aims to encourage innovative measures with health and wellbeing benefits in addition to the standard disabled facilities grants programme.
- As a result, the allocation of £200k of Bromsgrove District Council capital borrowing to supplement the disabled facilities grant budget in 2016-17 can be utilised to support other projects in the District (please see Table 1 for more information). It is proposed that £100k of this fund be utilised for the Energy Efficiency Fund
- Using £100k of this capital saving for an Energy Efficiency Fund should enable the launch of an Energy Efficiency Scheme before Winter 2016-17, tailored to the specific needs of Bromsgrove District and delivered by energy efficiency experts Act on Energy.
- This would also eliminate any need to spend any of the additional Better Care Fund allocation for Bromsgrove District on energy efficiency, enabling all of this additional funding to be spent on other innovative measures. For example, action to address falls in the home has been identified as a priority for Bromsgrove by the Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Board Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). Falls prevention requires a multidisciplinary approach and is therefore well suited to delivery by the Home Improvement Agency (HIA) through the Better Care Fund.
- The good partnership working already practiced by Act on Energy and the HIA should enable the Bromsgrove Energy Efficiency Fund scheme and Better Care Fund Disabled Facility Grants programme to be delivered as complementary aspects of a more holistic service for Bromsgrove residents.

**Table 1**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total available for Disabled Facility Grants for Bromsgrove residents</b>	<b>Government contribution (used first)</b>	<b>Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) contribution (used if required)</b>	<b>Disabled Facility Grants – actual spend</b>	<b>Excess funding available for Disabled Facilities Grants above previous annual spend</b>
Previous years	£587,000 (2015-16)	£387,000 (2015-16)	£200,000 (2015-16)	c. £500,000	c. £87,000
2016-17	£709,000	£709,000	£0	n/a	c. £209,000