

Promoting Prosperity Scrutiny Review

Vulnerable Tenants Grass Cutting and Internal Decoration Scheme

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Vulnerable Tenants Grass Cutting and Internal Decoration Scheme

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Vulnerable Tenants Grass Cutting and Internal Decoration Scheme - Criteria

- Scheme been in place from 2010 (amended 2011)
- Current scheme replaced Elderly Persons Decorating Scheme and Elderly and Disabled Grass Cutting Scheme.
- Free Service available to Cannock Chase Council tenants who fulfil criteria . Rules have been adopted to ensure scheme is restricted to those who are most vulnerable who have no alternative means of internally decorating their homes, or cut the grass.
- Tenants who qualify can have 2 rooms decorated once every three years and grass cut 8 times a year.

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a secure or introductory tenant of Cannock Chase Council
 - You must be aged over 70 or over
- Or
- Live in a property with disabled adaptations
- Or
- Receive one or more of the following
 - Attendance Allowance
 - Disability living Allowance (now PIP)
 - Severe Disablement Allowance
 - War Disablement Allowance
 - Employment Support Allowance (support component)
 - Long – term Incapacity benefit (note long term only)

Internal Decoration Facts and Figures

- Current budget available for the scheme is £ 128,000
- We employ 3 painters full time to complete decorations
- Maximum capacity for the team is 170 jobs/year
- Average cost for 2 rooms £750 which means we have just enough budget to do the 170 jobs we are capable of doing.
- Current list of applicants is 707 which is = to 4.25 years to complete.
- Waiting list is 219 (as of July 2018)
- Replacement / waiting time to get onto list is 7 years and then 3 more years to get to top of list. (based on totals removed from list and replaced in 2017)
- Some beneficiaries have been on list since 2010 and still receiving benefit of free decorating

Facts and Figures continued

- Completions for last 3 years
- 2016/17

Completions	133
Cost	£83,000
No on list	567
- 2017/18

Completions	114
Cost	£87,000
No on list	684
- 2018 –

Completions	23 to date
Cost	£16,000
No on list	707

Internal Decoration - Issues

- Refusals stay on list but block spaces – if not done or work cancelled applicant stays on list and we cannot offer work anyone on waiting list as we just move on to next in 3 year list.
- Refusals due to ill health, attendance at clubs etc. and will not have work Avg. refusal rate over 3 years approx. 16%
- High admin input to arrange /rearrange /agree appointments several calls and several attempts to secure appointment
- Eligibility criteria allows mix of young (due to vulnerability)/old onto scheme some may still be able to do work?
- Long waiting list
- Turnover rate

Grass Cutting - Facts and Figures

- Service capped at 1,300
- Current list of tenants receiving service is 852, no waiting list.
- Types of property – bungalows, flats & houses
- Service standard - front & rear lawn cut and edged, End March – October, 16 cuts weather dependant
- Provided by Parks and Open Spaces CCDC
- Grounds Maintenance budget £226,990
- Current grass cutting element cost estimated at £120K

Issues

- Grass cutting -one element garden maintenance. Doesn't assist with hedge trimming, weeding etc
- Delivery issues
 - List changes,
 - Access
 - Green waste