



## **CABINET DECISION NOTICE**

Publication Date: 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

**Present:** Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors Cracknell, Lindley, Proctor, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn.

### **DN.116 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence for this meeting.

### **DN.117 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests made from Members with regard to items on the agenda for this meeting.

### **DN.118 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

### **DN.119 HERITAGE ASSETS 'AT RISK'- SCARTH O CEMETERY LODGE & WAITING ROOMS (INCLUDING TOILETS)**

Cabinet considered a report from the Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets seeking approval to use capital funding on investment works to remove the last of the Council owned heritage property assets from the 'At Risk' Register.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the release of capital funding to the value of £673,000 to enable investment works at the Scartho Cemetery Lodge, Waiting Rooms and Toilets, be approved.**

- 2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets, to ensure that all necessary actions are carried out in relation to completing resolution 1 above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The importance of cultural heritage in North East Lincolnshire as a key component of achieving economic, social and environmental regeneration is widely accepted. The removal of Council owned heritage assets 'At Risk' supports improved relationships between the Council and heritage professionals and is essential to the success of wider proactive intervention by the Council relating to assets in private ownership.

These buildings are Listed and as such are of national importance This report is seeking approval to spend the last phase of capital funding on investment works to remove the last of the Council owned heritage property assets from the 'At Risk' Register.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Option 1 - The Council commit to the full programme of works to remove these properties from the Heritage 'At Risk' Register. This is the recommended option.

Option 2 - Do nothing - the buildings continue to deteriorate, and costs continue to escalate, increasing the Council's liability. This would affect the Council's heritage buildings and would negatively impact on privately owned heritage, as it would be unreasonable for the Council to pursue enforcement with private owners without also having a coherent and achievable plan for its own assets. Inaction would also affect the likelihood of returning these buildings back into use. This is not considered a viable option.

Option 3 - Pause until grant funding is available. There is no guarantee funding will be achieved with any degree of certainty as the Council has already secured funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for other projects in the Borough and to wait to secure further funding will only see the buildings deteriorate further which will see the overall cost of repair escalate. This is not considered a viable option.

## **DN.120 GREEN HOMES GRANT FUNDING BID PHASE 2**

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council seeking approval to accept £850,000 of grant funding from Midlands Energy Hub which will be prioritised and used to improve energy efficiency in approximately 63 homes, for those residents, who currently live-in fuel poverty or experience lower household incomes.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- 1. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council to accept the grant funding on behalf of the Council.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to deal with all matters arising from and ancillary to the above including negotiation with the funder, implementation and award of resultant contracts and works.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets to execute all documentation arising.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – Accepting the funding from Midlands Energy Hub (MEH) will help deliver energy efficiency improvements to approximately 63 homes, to households who are currently living in fuel poverty and potentially experiencing lower incomes.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Do Nothing – To do nothing would mean that the Council will depend on existing funded schemes, which do not include external wall insulation.

Use North East Lincolnshire Council Funding - NELC could use capital funding to external insulation, to support regeneration and provide a 'whole house' approach to delivering energy efficiency.

Accept the Funding This is the preferred option, delivering the scheme outlined in the report. This is the preferred option as other funded schemes, do not provide the same level of support for low-income families or external wall insulation.

## **DN.121 SECTION 31 LOCAL AUTHORITY GRANTS FOR ADDITIONAL DRUG TREATMENT CRIME AND HARM REDUCTION ACTIVITY IN 2021/22 – UNIVERSAL FUNDING COMPONENT**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care regarding the allocation of funding awarded by Public Health England to be invested in drug treatment services.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1. That authority be delegated to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Well Being and Adult Social Care to accept the funding from Public Health England on behalf of the Council.**

- 2. That authority be delegated to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Well Being and Adult Social Care to increase the number of treatment places for prison leavers and offenders diverted into tough and effective community sentences.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets to complete and execute all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The allocated funding is to increase the number of treatment places for prison leavers and offenders diverted into tough and effective community sentences. It also is for the enhancement of the current treatment/recovery systems already in place.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – To not accept the allocated grant funding which will result in loss of the extra funding but will subsequently result in losing the opportunity to utilise the funding to expand the provision of substance misuse services in North East Lincolnshire over the next 12 months.

## **DN.122 URGENT BUSINESS - HOME OFFICE SAFER STREETS FUND APPLICATION**

Cabinet considered an item of urgent business from the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities seeking approval to submit a funding bid for £431,000 to the Home Office as part of the Safer Street Funding 2 initiative.

This item was considered under the Special Urgency requirements as set out in the Council's Constitution, and with the agreement of the Chair of the Communities Scrutiny Panel. It is therefore not subject to the call-in procedure. This matter was considered urgent due to the tight time constraints and in order to support our communities by reducing neighbourhood crime.

### **RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the submission of the North East Lincolnshire Safer Streets 2 funding application and (if awarded) the receipt of £431,000 funding, be approved.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities to implement such funding in compliance with the terms of the grant, directed to the West Marsh ward of the borough, accepting that such investment may have a wider impact.**
- 3. That Authority be delegated to the Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Safer**

**and Stronger Communities to deal with any ancillary matter arising.**

- 4. That the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets be authorised to execute documentation arising.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The funding available of £431,000 requires a key decision from Cabinet as it is over the threshold of £350,000.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – The option for the Council programme delivery, described above, was directed by the Humberside Police Environmental Visual Audit. The area of focus was determined by the crime data and the classifications of crime were a requisite of the funding application from the Home Office.

## **DN. 123 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED – That the press and public be requested to leave on the grounds that discussion of the following business was likely to disclose exempt information within paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).**

## **DN.124 BESPOKE BEREAVEMENT SERVICES**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport seeking authority to commence a procurement for Bespoke Bereavement Services.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the commencement of a procurement exercise for the Bespoke Bereavement Services be approved.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, to deal with all matters up to, but not including award, which shall be reserved to Cabinet and be subject to a further report and recommendations.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – In line with the Council's vision for a Stronger Economy and Stronger Communities, the Council's Commercial Strategy sets out the need for the Council to become more commercial in the future. This means looking to achieve best value for money at the same time as delivering key social outcomes for residents and meeting the needs of residents. The Bespoke Bereavement Services proposal has arisen from the work on the Bereavement Services project, considered by Cabinet on 13 February 2019, which aims to make improvements to service provision and ensure that this service provision delivers value for money and has the interest of families of the bereaved as its core priority.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – The other option considered was for the Council to do nothing. However, this would not allow the Council to have a direct impact on improving choice for the public or allow for any surplus generated to be invested back into Council services, for the benefit of the wider local community.