

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	3842
Author:	Anne-Marie Barclay
Department:	Development and Growth
Contact:	Anne-Marie Barclay (Job Title: Project Manager, Email: annemarie.barclay@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764095)
Subject:	Acceptance of grant funding from Highways England
Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):	Yes
Total Value:	£2.69million (Type: Capital)
Decision Being Taken:	To accept £2.69million grant funding from Highways England for delivery of the Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Experience for businesses in Nottingham, and To approve signing of the funding agreement
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>As part of the Go Ultra Low Programme, the City Council has been successfully delivering an Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Experience to businesses in Nottingham, enabling them to trial ULEVs in their fleet. The project has been offering one month loans from a fleet of 10 electric cars and vans to encourage businesses to take up ULEVs. The current funding for this project is due to finish at the end of March 2020.</p> <p>The Council have been successful in securing £2.69million of grant funding from Highways England to extend this scheme offering a fleet of up to 50 electric vehicles to businesses over a two year period until March 2022. Following the initial 2 year loan period the vehicles purchased as part of the project will be incorporated into the City Council's municipal fleet. Successful delivery of this project will contribute to air quality improvements on the Strategic Road Network and major roads across the City and will contribute towards Nottingham's carbon neutral by 2028 objective.</p> <p>Highways England are looking to award this funding before the end of the 2019/20 financial year. To meet this timescale, a decision is required now to accept this funding. A further report will be take to Executive Board later in the year to provide further clarity on project delivery and approve the initiation of procurement activities.</p>

Briefing notes documents:	HE Funding Agreement_FINAL.pdf
Other Options Considered:	The option to refuse the funding was rejected as this would mean the council is unable to deliver the project, which would not be in the interests of City businesses and would not deliver the longer term benefits to the councils fleet services at Eastcroft. In addition, this option could also potentially be damaging to the council's reputation as a leader in the delivery of transport projects.
Background Papers:	None
Published Works:	None
Affected Wards:	Citywide
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	
Consultations:	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
Crime and Disorder Implications:	None - this decision is only for acceptance of the funding. Implications for project delivery will be considered as part of the subsequent approval to initiate spending activities.
Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: The project relates to a change in alternative fuel vehicles so there are no significant benefits or disbenefits to protected equality groups
Decision Type:	Leader's Key Decision
Subject to Call In:	No The call-in procedure does not apply to the proposed decision because the delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or Vice-Chair) in his/her absence has been consulted and agreed both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency.
	Person Consulted: Councillor Anne Peach
	Consultation Date: 26/03/2020
	There would be insufficient time for the call in period, before the 31 March when Highways England are looking to sign the Funding Agreement to transfer the funding.

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance

Legal Advice:

There are no significant legal issues arising from this decision. Any funding received will be subject to the funding terms stipulated by the funder and to which the Council must adhere. Legal advice is being provided in respect of the funding agreement.

Advice provided by Naomi Vass (Senior Solicitor) on 16/03/2020.

Finance Advice:

See attached financial comments Advice provided by Susan Tytherleigh (Senior Finance Manager) on 19/03/2020.

Advice documents: Transport Strategy - Highways England 2.7m funding.docx

Signatures:

David Mellen (Leader/ PH Regeneration, Safety and Communications)

SIGNED and Dated: 28/03/2020

Chris Henning (Corporate Director for Development and Growth)

SIGNED and Dated: 25/03/2020