

Finance comments – Highways England grant of £2.69m

Highways England are allocating £2.69m capital grant to Nottingham City Council for delivery of the ULEV experience for businesses in Nottingham. The funding will be received in one lump sum in March 2020 and to be spent in line with the grant conditions and by 21 March 2023. The grant is to be spent on purchasing up to 50 electric vehicles to loan to businesses to encourage use of electric vehicles across the City. At the end of the period of the grant the vehicles will form part of Nottingham City council's fleet.

The grant conditions stipulate that any grant not spent must be returned. The Council must develop a benefits realisation plan indicating how the benefits of the project will be assessed and measured. This is an extension of a current project in place and the infrastructure and knowledge to deliver this across teams at the Council is therefore in place.

The project requires vehicles not loaned out to business to be stored on our sites and to be maintained and valeted by the in-house NEVS fleet scheme.

The allocation of the grant is as follows:

Item of Capital Expenditure	Budget (in UK Sterling)	Tolerance
Electric vehicles	£2,170,000	1%
Vehicle telematics	£20,000	5%
Electric vehicle charging hubs	£200,000	2%
Charge point infrastructure grants	£300,000	2%
Total (Capital funding)	£2,690,000	0%

Match funding provided (from within current resources – requiring no new funding)

Item of Resource Expenditure	Budget (in UK Sterling)
ULEV procurement staffing incl. legal, procurement, strategy and technical resources	£60,000
Programme Management staffing comprising an allocation of ULEV fleet and Transport Strategy staffing	£130,000
Project Management staffing comprising the existing WS officers	£250,000
Support to provide promotional activities and monitoring and evaluation activities	£40,000
NEVS aftercare and technical support	£350,000
Insurance policy cover for the trial vehicles to be provided by Plan Insurance Brokers	£170,000
Total (Resource funding)	£1,000,000

It is the responsibility of the Project Management staff to ensure that all conditions of the grant are adhered to and any budgets required as part of the match funding and within the grant agreement are protected from savings for the duration of the project.

Susan Tytherleigh

Strategic Finance Business Partner – D&G

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