

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	3866
Author:	Alice Ullathorne
Department:	Development and Growth
Contact:	Nigel Turpin (Job Title: Heritage and Urban Design Manager, Email: nigel.turpin@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764081)
Subject:	Heritage Strategy Officer Funding
Total Value:	£132,228 (£65,438 grant, £66,790 from existing budgets) (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	To accept the Historic England funding offer for a Heritage Strategy Officer post to be matched by Nottingham City Council (NCC) to deliver the Nottingham Heritage Strategy and the Nottingham Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) Programme extending an existing post

Reasons for the Decision(s)

Nottingham Heritage Strategy is a 15 year vision to establish a vibrant, valued and widely-known heritage which delivers long term benefits to the people, economy and environment of the City of Nottingham.

In partnership with Historic England Nottingham City Council launched the Heritage Strategy in 2015 and shared the funding of a Heritage Lead to help deliver the strategy. The extension of this post is required to help deliver the strategy and the Nottingham Heritage Action Zone to its conclusion in 2022.

The Heritage Strategy Officer post will help support the Local Authority agenda of heritage-led regeneration and reduction of risk to Heritage Assets through the Heritage Action Zone Programme and the delivery of the aims and objectives of the Nottingham Heritage Strategy.

Aims of Nottingham Heritage Action Zone

- . To create a lively and attractive city which celebrates its heritage, attracts visitors and supports economic growth.
- . To use the heritage assets at the heart of the city more effectively to engage the public with the city, its history and management
- . To reduce the risk to heritage in Nottingham
- . To transform the public understanding of the heritage of the city

HAZ tasks specific to the Heritage Strategy Officer include:

1. Overseeing the conservation area grant schemes and providing capacity to deliver key schemes
2. Providing the infrastructure for the effective delivery of the HAZ programme
3. Organising Events

The wider objectives of the Heritage Strategy Officer role includes:

1. Run a Heritage panel and Partnership
2. Support Nottingham Historic Building Trust
3. Pro- actively ensure repairs to listed buildings are carried out
4. Help enhance the Local List

Acceptance of the grant funding is a Delegated Portfolio Holder Decision.

The Heritage Strategy Officer has secured £2.7m funding for investment in heritage assets in the city centre since the post was created in 2016 including council-owned properties. The funding has helped to deliver heritage led regeneration, which is at the heart of the objectives of the Nottingham Heritage Strategy, as well as the Time and Place Plan and the Nottingham Growth plan by creating a better environment at the heart of Nottingham for citizens, business and visitors. The Heritage Strategy Officer will also help deliver commitments within the 2019-24 Council Plan.

The match funding contribution for the HAZ Officer post would be from the Planning Directorate budget. Historic England's total contribution to the post is £65,438, which would be paid as a grant of £21,813 pa. The £22,263 pa NCC contribution has been earmarked from the Planning budget. This would give a 3 year budget of £132,228 to employ a full-time Heritage Strategy officer until 2022.

Briefing notes documents:

Economic Value of Heritage Strategy Projects - AU v2.docx, 2nd Phase FCB Grant Offer Letter.pdf

Other Options Considered:

Not To Accept The Grant.The opportunities presented through the Nottingham Heritage Strategy represents a once in a generation opportunity to enhance the historic environment in Nottingham. The grant support from Historic England for the Heritage Strategy Officer over the next 3 years will provide the capacity to deliver the Heritage Strategy and Nottingham HAZ. If Nottingham City Council do not take this opportunity the capacity will not be available to successfully deliver the Heritage Strategy and HAZ, including securing significant grant aid.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Heritage Strategy, Time and Place Plan, Growth Plan, NCC Council Plan

Affected Wards:

Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Consultations:

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

There are no crime and disorder implications for the Heritage Strategy Officer role. The subsequent heritage-led regeneration should create a better and safer environment in the city centre.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: The report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions. This is the extension of an existing role.

Relates to staffing:

Yes

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

21/05/2020

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Human Resources

Legal Advice: There are no significant legal issues arising from this decision subject to compliance with any funding terms and the availability of match funding.
Advice provided by Naomi Vass (Senior Solicitor) on 16/03/2020.

Finance Advice: The grade H Heritage Strategy post referred to in this decision is expected to cost £0.132m across financial years 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22.

50% of the staffing cost (£0.066m) is to be met through existing revenue budget within the Planning Directorate, with the remaining 50% (£0.066m) to be funded through Historic England grant funding. The payment of £0.066m Historic England grant funding will be made in equal instalments across 2019/20- 2021/22 financial years.

It must be ensured that the Heritage Strategy Post is protected from future savings proposals across 2019/20 to 2021/22 in order to ensure that the required match funding of £0.066m Historic Grant funding will be received.

In order to secure the maximum Historic England funding to the value of £0.066m, the Heritage and Urban Design manager will be responsible for reporting the progress made in achieving the heritage outcomes as set out in the grant offer letter and also ensuring that the grant funding is used for the purpose for which it has been awarded. This will reduce the risk of there being unfunded staffing costs relating to the Heritage Strategy Officer post that will be required to be met by the Heritage and Urban design team.

Advice provided by Roma Patel (Commercial Business Partner) on 25/02/2020.

HR Advice: Management propose to extend the contracts of the Heritage Strategy Officer post for a period of 3 years

Where an employee has accrued more than 2 years' service, management should be aware of the right to a redundancy payment if the reason for dismissal is redundancy and budget accordingly.

In giving notice to end a fixed term contract, management will need to ensure appropriate timelines are in place to notify the affected employees and give appropriate notice and referral to Redeployment, through the Departmental HR team as appropriate in accordance with the Fixed Term Workers Policy.

Management will need to complete a variation to contract form to request an extension of contract and to arrange an extension letter for the employee.

Advice provided by Shilpa Arya (HR Consultant) on 24/02/2020.

Signatures

Linda Woodings as Portfolio Holder (PH Housing, Planning and Heritage)
SIGNED and Dated: 14/05/2020
Chris Henning (Corporate Director for Development and Growth)
SIGNED and Dated: 12/05/2020