

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	4244
Author:	Kate Knight
Department:	Growth and City Development
Contact:	Kate Knight (Job Title: Assistant Project Manager, Email: kate.knight@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764206)
Subject:	Grant award to the Canal and River Trust
Total Value:	£55,000 (Type: Capital)
Decision Being Taken:	To approve the allocation of up to £55,000 from the Transforming Cities Fund grant to the Canal and River Trust to enable them to procure detailed design for Towpath Widening via their own framework.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>In March 2020 the Department for Transport (DfT) confirmed Nottingham and Derby had been successful in securing funding from Tranche 2 of the Transforming Cities Fund following successful partnership bid with Derby City Council. The successful bid from the Transforming Cities Fund has secured a total funding award of £161 million to deliver a programme of public transport and active travel across the Nottingham Derby city region to March 2023. One of these projects is the 'Nottingham/Beeston Canal Towpath Upgrade' and a central part of these improvement works is the need to widen the towpath at Bridge 3 (under London Rd). Currently, the towpath at this location is very narrow and on a tight bend making it a health and safety risk for cyclists and pedestrians. The widening of the towpath in this location would create a safer and more usable route for pedestrians and cyclists, increase leisure and commuter usage and provide an enhanced link to the new developments in the area (Island Site, Vita, Broadmarsh development). As this land is owned by the Canal and River Trust they have to lead the preliminary work and have sought quotes via their own framework for the full design phase. The purpose of this decision is to secure approval to offer a grant award of up to £55,000 from the Transforming Cities Fund to The Canal and River Trust for the full design work of the towpath widening at Bridge 3 (under London Rd- A60). Delivering in-house through the City Council's DLO or existing framework was the preferred option included in the Transforming Cities Fund Executive Board approval, however, during subsequent discussions the Canal and River Trust confirmed, as the landowner, they are keen to undertake the procurement from their own frameworks.</p>
Other Options Considered:	Do nothing: This option was rejected as this would mean the council is unable to deliver the project, which would not be in the interest of citizens, and would require a variation to the Transforming Cities Fund programme.

Background Papers:	None
Published Works:	Transforming Cities Fund Executive Board 16 June 2020
Affected Wards:	Castle
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	None
Consultations:	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
Crime and Disorder Implications:	N/A
Equality:	EIA not required. Reasons: The decision does not set out proposals for changes to a policy, service or function.
Decision Type:	Portfolio Holder
Subject to Call In:	Yes
Call In Expiry date:	18/06/2021
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance
Legal Advice:	<p>This report proposes that a grant is made to the Canals and Rivers Trust (CRT) for the purpose of carrying out upgrade works to the canal towpath. These upgrade works will provide a benefit to the many users that cycle and walk along the route and assist the Council in delivering against its programme of active travel works funded by the Transforming Cities Fund.</p> <p>There are not considered to be any procurement issues for the Council on the basis that this is a grant and in the event that the CRT do not complete the work the grant may be clawed back - however the Council does need to be satisfied that the funding granted will deliver value for money and meet any milestones or key objectives. In the event that there is any risk that the project will not be delivered the Council should notify its funders.</p> <p>A grant agreement will be entered into that will set out the requirements on the spend and monitoring of the funding.</p> <p>Advice provided by Naomi Vass (Senior Solicitor) on 01/06/2021.</p>

Finance Advice:

The value of this decision is already forecast within the current capital programme, therefore following the approval of this decision the capital programme will not require amending.

As this decision is already within the capital programme and is fully funded by external grant it is outside the amended scheme of delegation and does not require endorsement by the Capital Board.

The project manager is required to ensure this approval provides the Council with value for money and that the grant conditions are met to reduce the risk of grant clawback.

Advice provided by Tom Straw (Senior Accountant - Capital Programmes) on 02/06/2021.

Signatures

Rosemary Healy (Portfolio Holder Highways, Transport, Cleansing)
SIGNED and Dated: 10/06/2021
Michael Wayne Bexton (Interim CD for Growth & City Development)
SIGNED and Dated: 07/06/2021