

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	4313
Author:	Eddie Curry
Department:	Resident Services
Contact:	Eddie Curry (Job Title: Head of Public Realm, Email: eddie.curry@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764982)
Subject:	Future Parks Accelerator Project Extension & Natural England Seed Corn Funding
Total Value:	£174,618 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>Approve the funding from the National Trust and National Lottery Heritage Fund to extend the Future Parks Accelerator (FPA) Project and from Natural England as detailed in appendix 1 and appendix 2 until the End of March 2022.</p> <p>Approve an extension to the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to accommodate the additional in year revenue funding. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Residents Services and Director of Neighbourhood Services to carry out any related procurement, enter into contracts and commission specialist advice from consultants that are required to deliver the programme.</p>
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>The FPA has been operating since May 2019. The original project was scheduled to be completed by end of May 2021 but due to covid restrictions throughout 2020/21, the project requires more time to complete the project objectives and required outputs.</p> <p>The National Trust and National Lottery NTNL recognise that projects had been affected / slowed down during the last year and that many of the FPA projects around the country required more time to complete the projects. As a result, NTNL have now confirmed additional funding to complete the project by the end of March 2022.</p> <p>The additional funding from Natural England will be used to match against the FPA funds and will help deliver biodiversity mapping and survey work around the City. This information will be used to inform the production of the new 25year Green Space Strategy.</p>
Briefing notes documents:	Appendix 1 Summary of the FPA Project.docx, Appendix 2 Natural England Seed Corn Funding.docx

Other Options Considered: Continue to deliver the project without NTNL funding. This option has been rejected as it will put pressure on the service to fund the projects.
Do not accept the funding and stop the project. This option has been rejected as it will not allow the service to explore new ways of working or find new ways to sustain the service moving forward.

Background Papers: Executive Board report 'Future Parks Accelerator Funding Bid' - 19/02/2019

Published Works: <https://www.hlf.org.uk/about-us/news-features/hlf-and-national-trust-join-forces-improve-parks>

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Consultations: Date: 19/05/2021
Ward Councillors: Rosemary Healy
Cllr Healy as Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, Cleansing has been consulted on the project and is fully supportive of the continuation of the FPA project and the funding from the NTNL.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: The project will help the service to develop new partnerships with local agencies that will support training and work experience for young people within the City. The Project will also help to identify sustainable ways for the service to continue maintaining and improving Nottingham's Parks and Greens Spaces. These interventions will help improve the life chances for young people and will help ensure that the sites look well managed and are clean and tidy, therefore it is hoped that this will help reduce crime and anti social behaviour with the City's Parks.

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: The decision does not involve new or changing policies, services or functions.

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 09/08/2021

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance

Legal Advice: This delegated decision raises no significant legal issues. Any NTNL and Natural England funding will be subject to grant funding conditions which if not complied with/met could result in clawback of the funding. The procurement of any contracts as mentioned by the report author must be undertaken in accordance with public contract regulations and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

Advice provided by Sarah O'Bradaigh (senior solicitor) on 28/05/2021.

Finance Advice: The project has operated since May 2019 and this additional grant funding will enable it to continue operating until March 2022.

The £174k is predominantly a labour resource budget, of which has a contingency built in to cover possible redundancy costs at the end of the project term.

This contingency is anticipated to cover these costs as the employees currently in situ are on secondment from other service areas within NCC. Budget monitoring and record keeping should continue for the residual term of the project, as a condition of the grant funding. This will evidence sound financial management and aid in accurate clawback calculations should the need arise.

Advice provided by Meagan Milic (Commercial Business Partner) on 16/07/2021.

Signatures
Rosemary Healy (Portfolio Holder Highways, Transport, Cleansing)
SIGNED and Dated: 29/07/2021
Dave Halstead (Director of Neighbourhood Services)
SIGNED and Dated: 28/07/2021