

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

4450

Author:

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Department:

Finance and Resources

Contact:

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Subject:

Approval of External Resources for Transformation and Improvement #9 - OD Theme

Total Value:

£0.324m (Type: Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

To approve the allocation of funding towards external resources for transformation and improvement, as set out in Appendix A. The funding allocation is being approved by the Chief Executive as an executive decision, and the establishment of posts will be approved by the Chief Executive as a non-executive decision under Delegation 16. Authority to take this decision was delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, by the Executive Board at its meeting on 20 July 2021.

Reasons for the Decision(s)

The Council is on a rapid journey of improvement as set out in the Recovery and Improvement Plan (R&IP), adopted at Full Council on 25 January 2021. Delivery of both the R&IP and organisational transformation requires significant financial investment - time, skills and technology - to ensure that its impacts are meaningful in operational and financial terms.

The Council has received support from central Government in the form of a Capitalisation Direction in two tranches: £20m for 2020/21 and an in principal allocation of up to £15m in 2021/22 to support transformation, modernisation and an invest to save if required. Council resources have been stretched to capacity during the Coronavirus pandemic and, in order to deliver the transformation required, it will require greater capacity through a blend of external specialist resource combined with the skills and experience of existing staff. Delivery is of a complex nature and additional resources will provide focus and a faster pace of change.

£15m has been set aside to provide the necessary resource to support this investment. It is not set aside for 'business as usual' activity, but for short-term, highly targeted spend and technology investment. The aim is to see work as 'task and finish', with the appropriate transfer of skills to Council staff. Organisational arrangements have been put in place involving both officers and councillors to drive this transformation activity, and individual business cases will be developed and signed off through these arrangements. The allocation of this overall funding is delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

This report seeks to allocate a proportion of the funding towards external resources for improvement works as set out in Appendix A. This decision links to previous decisions taken as referenced later in the document.

Briefing notes documents:

Appendix A - Theme 6 - Org Cult Exec spend #9 v3.docx

Other Options Considered:

- 1) To not approve the allocation of funding: this option was rejected, as this would mean that the Council would be unable to meet the requirements set out in the R&IP.
- 2) To approve some, but not all, of the allocations of funding: this option was rejected as the requests for resource have been reviewed and challenged and considered valid in the delivery of the outputs required to deliver on the R&IP.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Executive Board on 20 July 2021: Transformation and Improvement Update and Delegated Decisions 4271, 4294, 4360, 4401-4404: Improvement and Transformation resources

Affected Wards:

Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Consultations: **Date: 08/11/2021**
Other:Councillor Mellen
Discussed with Mel Barrett

Crime and Disorder Implications: **There are no implications on crime and disorder.**

Equality: **EIA not required. Reasons: This decision does not represent proposals for a new or changing policy, service or function.**

Decision Type: **Officer**

Executive Decision? **Yes**

£50,000 or more: **Yes**

Scheme of Delegation Reference Number or Other Source of Delegation: **Executive Board decision 20 July 2021 Transformation and Improvement update**

Subject to Call In: **Yes**

Call In Expiry date: **02/12/2021**

Advice Sought: **Legal, Finance, Procurement**

Legal Advice: **The proposed decision raises no significant legal issues and is supported. Advice provided by Malcolm Townroe (Director of Legal and Governance) on 03/11/2021.**

Finance Advice:

This decision seeks the approval of external resources to support the improvement work steam #9 - OD theme as identified in the Recovery and Improvement Plan. The approval of this funding is delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, in the report to Executive Board on 20 July 2021.

The total amount of external improvement resource requiring approval in this decision is £0.324m. Details of the resource requests are contained within the Appendix A, attached to this decision. Spend should only be incurred where it aligns to the outcomes and objectives of the Recovery and Improvement Plan.

This decision is to be funded in full from the Transformation and Improvement reserve. Spend will need to be monitored to ensure approval limits are not exceeded. Should any further funding be required then appropriate approval will need to be sought. Once approved, theme leads should follow the managers' resourcing process and guidance to adhere to Governance, Finance and Procurement rules.

Advice provided by Philip Gretton (Finance Analyst) on 03/11/2021.

Procurement Advice:

The appointment of external resources needs to be completed in line with the Managers' resourcing process and guidance. Procurement will advise on finding compliant routes to source additional resources as and when required. Advice should be sought from Procurement before entering into any agreement with suppliers.

Advice provided by Steve Oakley (Head of Contracting and Procurement) on 03/11/2021.

Signatures:

Mel Barrett (Chief Executive)

SIGNED and Dated: 25/11/2021