

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	5064
Author:	Michael Gallagher
Department:	Communities, Environment and Resident Services
Contact:	Michael Gallagher (Job Title: Regional Energy Project Manager, Email: michael.gallagher@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 07864 969755)
Subject:	Regional Skills Pilot - Home Decarbonisation
Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):	Yes
Key Decision (decision affects 2 or more wards):	Yes
Total Value:	up to £900,000 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<p>To accept up to £900,000 Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) grant funding for a Home Decarbonisation Regional Skills Pilot; To delegate authority to the Head of Midlands Net Zero Hub to: (i) enter into a Local government Act 2003 section 31 Agreement with DESNZ and collaboration agreements with public sector partners (ii) spend up to £140,000 of the grant funding to develop a Net Zero Building Retrofit Skills Plan including; on the role of Programme Manager (x 1); and on the procurement of external consultants to support the development & implementation of the Net Zero Building Retrofit Skills Plan. 3. To establish the role of Programme Manager, noting recruitment to the role is a non-executive decision delegated to the Corporate Director for Communities, Environment and Residents under Delegation 16 of the scheme of Delegations to Officers. 4. Subject to DESNZ approval of the Net Zero Building Retrofit Skills Plan, to delegate authority to the Head of the Midlands Net Zero Hub to spend up to £760,000 of the grant funding to: to commence implementation of the Plan and award grant funding, as appropriate, to public sector partners who collaborate with the Midlands Net Zero Hub on the Regional Skills Pilot project, alongside procuring additional support where required."</p>

Reasons for the Decision(s)

The DESNZ is committed to delivering support to enable the Government's retrofit initiatives to be both an economic stimulus and contributor to the UK's carbon net-zero ambitions. This funding will be managed by the Midlands Net Zero Hub, within the Council's ES Division, enabling skills training provision across the region in support of the low carbon economy. The total value is £900,000, of which £40,000 has initially been allocated to the Hub and the ES Division to administer and manage the project. The Hub is well-placed to do this, and it will generate revenue for the Council and create jobs across the region. This work also aligns with the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership's Energy Strategy and developing Local Industrial Strategy, supporting the skills agenda that will enable green growth. Furthermore, it will support the supply chain development that is needed to meet the Council's Carbon Neutral 2028 ambitions. The DESNZ has requested the Hub's and the ES Division's support on this project, due to their successful track record in project development and support, with an ability to meet challenging deadlines. This is brought through as an LKD due to the delivery timeframes, requiring this programme to be launched and delivered this financial year, and there being a stipulation in the MoU that the agreement is to be received by them for the 27th November 2023. The Hub will have until March 24 to complete Stage 1. Subsidy Control will depend on the approach in phase 2 dictated by phase 1, and DESNZ will advise further when stage 1 is complete.

Other Options Considered:

To not accept the grant: this option is rejected as it would represent a loss of revenue for the Council and would be a missed opportunity to support the development and growth of a skilled workforce in a growth sector.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

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:

None

Equality:

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

Social Value Considerations:	Social Value considerations will be considered as part of the procurement process in-line with guidance from procurement colleagues.
Relates to staffing:	Yes
Decision Type:	Leader's Key Decision
Subject to Call In:	Yes
Call In Expiry date:	06/12/2023
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance, Procurement, Human Resources
Legal Advice:	Please see the attached comments Advice provided by Richard Bines (Solicitor) on 16/11/2023.
	Advice documents: Final Legal Comments.docx
Finance Advice:	<p>This decision seeks the approval to accept £0.900m in grant funding from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) for the Regional Skills Pilot.</p> <p>This funding will be managed by the Midland Net Zero Hub, within the Council's ES Division, enabling training provision across the region in support of the low carbon economy.</p> <p>The total value is £0.900m, £0.040m of which will be allocated to the Hub and the ES Division to manage the project.</p> <p>Advice provided by Sejal Mistry (Senior Commercial Business Partner) on 16/11/2023.</p>
Procurement Advice:	There are no significant Procurement concerns with the decisiona being sought. It is anticipated that a consultant will be appointed for the first phase of the project, with requirements for subsequent support determined by the outcomes of the first phase. All appointments made must be in line with Contract Procedure Rules and applicable provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations, and advice should be sought from the Procurement Team to ensure compliance. As this is grant funded work, savings from this procurement exercise may not be allocated in respect of the Council's corporate savings target for procurement, but will be returned to the funder or reallocated within this programme. Advice provided by Jonathan Whitmarsh (Lead Procurement Officer) on 08/11/2023.

HR Advice:

The current funding for this role is short term and the current postholder would not be entitled to redundancy payments should the funding end in 2024 as they do not have the required length of service. Consideration should be given that if the funding is extended beyond the 2 year mark then the current postholder would be eligible for redundancy payments as the ending of the role creates a redundancy situation. There is also the possibility of increasing the working hours of the post. If there is an increase in hours then the postholder should be given the opportunity to decide if they would increase their hours as they have were appointed through the required recruitment processes. Advice provided by Sheona Dawes (HR Advisor) on 24/11/2023.

Signatures:

David Mellen (Leader/ PH Strategic Regeneration & Communications)
SIGNED and Dated: 29/11/2023
Colin Parr (Corporate Director, CERS)
SIGNED and Dated: 29/11/2023