

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

1979

Author:

Hiren Vaitha

Department:

Development

Contact:

Hiren Vaitha

(Job Title: Regeneration Officer, Email: hiren.vaitha@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158762123)

Subject:

Action Plan for Bulwell Town Centre and approval of next steps

Total Value:

£128,000 (Type: Capital and Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

1. To approve spend up to £22,000 from the direct funding allocated to Bulwell Town Centre to undertake and implement the short term actions that can be completed rapidly, as listed in the table at appendix 1.
2. To approve expenditure of £48,000 per annum for two years on the recruitment of a Town Centre Co-ordinator, to provide a dedicated and focused post, to implement the actions contained within the draft action Action Plan, the costs to be met from revenue resources.
3. To approve spend of £10,000 on the creation of a Town Centre Team.

Reasons for the Decision(s) A draft action plan for Bulwell Town Centre and arterial routes has been developed that sets out an analysis of the opportunities and challenges that exist in the regeneration of Bulwell Town Centre, surrounding areas and main arterial routes. Some of these proposals have significant expenditure associated and will require further investigation and specific business cases developing. However, there are a number of actions that are zero or low cost which could be implemented relatively quickly. It was previously identified that there was a need for a strategy on Outer City developments, including in Bulwell and Clifton. The draft Action Plan for Bulwell Town Centre was completed in 2014 and the Action Plan for Clifton Town Centre and local shopping areas is currently being drafted.

The draft Action Plan for Bulwell has been developed through analysis by Council Regeneration Officers and in consultation with local members and Neighbourhood Officers. This has created a desire to implement the quick win actions, which will lead to significant improvements in Bulwell Town Centre.

The list of interventions and actions are aspirational and are not all achievable. A number of them require further research and investigation and with detailed individual business cases to ensure value for money within allocated budgets. Priorities will be set as actions are examined in further detail.

In the draft Action Plan for Bulwell we propose to push forward with quick wins in the Action Plan as there is a real desire to put in place the short-term quick win actions and funding has been identified for this. Further actions requiring investment can be decided on and progressed in the medium/long term but they will require robust/viable business cases to support them.

The action plan option summary at appendix 1 sets out the short-term zero/low-cost actions which are proposed, subject to detailed investigation on longer term actions.

Briefing notes documents: Action Plan Options Summary - Appendix 1.doc

Other Options Considered:

- a) Do nothing - no benefits would be realised and a significant strategic ambition of the Council to regenerate Outer City estates would be rejected.

- b) Carry out all elements of the action plan for Bulwell and Clifton using available funds.

Background Papers: None

Published Works: Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) - 2014/15 to 2016/17

Affected Wards: Bulwell

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Consultations:	Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.
Crime and Disorder Implications:	None
Equality:	Please login to the system to view the EIA document: Equality Impact Assessment Form - Bulwell Action Plan - Final Version - 21-01-15.doc
Decision Type:	Portfolio Holder
Subject to Call In:	Yes
Call In Expiry date:	12/05/2015
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance, Human Resources, Equality and Diversity
Legal Advice:	<p>Overall the proposals set out in the report raise no significant legal issues. However, appointment to the Town Centre Co-ordinator role will need to have regard to the temporary nature of the role and be made on merit and in accordance with the Council's recruitment policies and procedures.</p> <p>Advice provided by John Bernard-Carlin (Team Leader) on 22/04/2015.</p>
Finance Advice:	<p>This decision is to appoint a Town Centre Co-ordinator for 2 years at an annual estimated cost of £48,000 and to incur spend of £20,000 on signage and £2,000 on Demographical Catchment Area Data. In addition a draft action plan for Bulwell is presented.</p> <p>A scheme of £1.000m for Bulwell Town Centre was identified as a Project in Development in the Medium Term Financial Plan report to Executive Board in February 2015, to be financed £0.500m from City Council resources and £0.500m borrowing that covers its cost. The costs in this report are revenue expenditure which will be met from revenue resources, with the capital resources available for the scheme being reduced by an equal amount.</p> <p>The report also proposes the creation of a Town Team at a cost of £10,000 which will be met from existing 'Portas' grant funding.</p> <p>In order to enable the more substantive elements of the action plan to be progressed it will be necessary to work up detailed business cases including due diligence and identification of funding, and a further report will need to be presented at that time to move the scheme up into the approved capital programme.</p> <p>Advice provided by Jim Driver (Finance Service Partner) on 17/04/2015.</p>

HR Advice:

The creation of a town co-ordinator will need formal job evaluation to establish grade and must be recruited to following council procedures. A two year post will attract a redundancy payment so this will need to be factored into the exit strategy. The report is supported.

Advice provided by Bridget Donoghue (HR Business Partner) on 22/04/2015.

Equality and Diversity Advice:

There is an opportunity to advance and promote equality through the delivery of this proposal, more particularly by improving the environment to make it more accessible for older and disabled people. There are also opportunities to promote community cohesion through the use of buildings that are improved or brought back into use.

Advice provided by Imogeen Denton (Senior Equality Specialist) on 28/04/2015.

Signatures

Graham Chapman (PH for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration)

SIGNED and Dated: 05/05/2015

David Bishop (Deputy CE, CD for Development and Growth)

SIGNED and Dated: 01/05/2015