

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

2285

Author:

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Department:

Communities

Contact:

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Subject:

Highfields Park Restoration Project

Total Value:

£378,836 (Type: Capital and Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

1. Approve the increase in expenditure on the Highfields Park restoration project detailed in this report since the authorisation by Executive Board on 22 July 2014 (minute 27);
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Sport, Culture & Parks to enter into contracts for the delivery of the restoration project; and
3. Amend the capital programme to reflect the expenditure detailed in this report.

Reasons for the Decision(s) Since the Executive Board approval for the Highfields Park project on 22nd July 2014, a thorough process of obtaining quotes for the various works has been followed by InspiredSpaces under the Local Education Partnership.

The attached table shows the changes between the Executive Board cost plan and the project costs at the point of requesting Permission to Start from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The total cost differences are £128,836 capital and £250,000 revenue.

The capital cost increases reflect increases in labour and material rates since the Stage One costs were obtained, as well as a refinement of the project scope such as the de-silting of the lake.

The revenue cost increases are due to changes to the project and Stage Two bid that were made in consultation with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to make the grant percentage more competitive - for example, the costs of including additional staffing for longer than the 5 years originally planned. As a condition of the grant, the City Council had to commit to sustaining the Park Ranger and Head Gardener posts for at least 10 years.

The funding for the additional costs is made up from an increase in the HLF grant, additional commercial activity and income generation from the site and revenue from the Parks Service.

Briefing notes documents: Highfields DD 24-11-15 background.doc

Other Options Considered: If the total revised cost of £4,636,067 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Stage Two offer letter is not achieved, the HLF funding will not be available and the project will not be deliverable.

Background Papers:

Published Works: Highfields Park Executive Board report 22nd July 2014 and minute 27

Affected Wards: Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Consultations: Date: 22/07/2014
Other City Council Bodies: Executive Board

Project approval.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

The restoration project aims to make the park safer, more welcoming and more attractive to use.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: An EIA was produced for the Executive Board report and there have been no major changes since then which require a new EIA.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

31/12/2015

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance

Legal Advice:

- 1. As with the report to Executive Board dated 22 July 2014, the proposals in this report raise not significant legal issues but regard will need to be had to the terms and conditions attached to the individual funding sources.**
- 2. The tender process for the restoration works should specify the type of contract to be entered into and also set out any special clauses required by the Council. The Corporate Procurement team will be able to provide detaile advice on the tender process.**
- 3. The decision is within the key responsibilities of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture and also within his financial threshold. Advice provided by Judith Irwin (Senior Solicitor) on 11/12/2015.**

1. Approve the increased cost of the £378,836 from £4,257,200 approved Executive Board 22nd July, 2014 to the revised costs of £4,636,036 as detailed in this report, and the funding detailed below.

Funding £

Capital Funding	£
Highfields Leisure Park Trust (app'd July 2014)	500,000
WREN funding	50,000
UoN Grounds Maintenance	25,000
NCC Area Capital Budget	10,000
Croquet Club	10,000
Total Match Funding (Capital)	595,000
HLF grant request Capital	3,156,686
Total Capital Funding	£3,751,686

Revenue Funding

UoN Lakeside events funding	346,500
NCC funding for Park Ranger (10 years)	250,036
Additional Income (over 10 years)	175,000
Probation Service/ Volunteer time (in kind)	29,000
Total Match Funding (Revenue)	800,536
HLF grant request revenue	83,814
Total Revenue Funding	884,350

Total Cost of Scheme	4,636,036
Total HLF contribution	3,240,500
Grant rate	69.9%

2. The capital programme needs amending to reflect the additional capital costs and funding of £3,751,686 for this scheme.

3. The City Council contribution of £250,036 will be funded from the existing Park Rangers and Patrol revenue budget over a 10 year period.

4. An additional further £175,000 of income from will be generated from new adventure golf and cafe concessions over the same period.

5. This report will not impact on the achievement of Medium Term Financial Plan, but there will be a commitment on the Parks budget to fund this scheme for 10 years.

Advice provided by Steve Ross (Finance Analyst) on 14/12/2015.

David Trimble (Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture)

SIGNED and Dated: 22/12/2015

Andrew Vaughan (Corporate Director Commercial and Operations)

SIGNED and Dated: 18/12/2015