

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

2634

Author:

James Dymond

Department:

Communities

Contact:

Eddie Curry

(Job Title: Head of Parks, Open Spaces and Investment Funding, Email: eddie.curry@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764982)

Subject:

Highfields Park Restoration Project

Total Value:

£200,000 (Type: Capital)

Decision Being Taken:

1. To approve the increase in expenditure on the Highfields Park project as set out in this decision since the authorisation under Delegated Decision 2285 on 22 December 2015.
2. To note the release of £200,000 funding from the Highfields Leisure Trust dowry to the Highfields Park restoration project, as set out in this decision.
3. To delegate authority to the Director of Sport, Culture & Parks to enter into contracts in relation to the funding identified at 2 above for the delivery of the restoration project.
4. To amend the capital programme to reflect the expenditure detailed.

Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>A Stage Two pass for the Highfields Park restoration project was received from the Heritage Lottery Fund in March 2015 and extensive work has taken place since then to finalise the designs and cost plan.</p> <p>Following the receipt of planning approval for the lake de-silting element of the scheme, the Environment Agency requested major changes in the way the silt from the lake is handled. This has resulted in an increase in the lake de-silting costs and an increase in fees to work up the new proposals. Other project costs have also increased due to the delays this has caused to the project, meaning that contracts have had to be re-tendered and new quotes sought.</p> <p>An additional £200,000 from the Highfields Leisure Trust dowry to the scheme has therefore been secured to bridge this funding gap, with the new scheme totalling £4,836,067 compared to the previous total of £4,636,067.</p> <p>The funding allocation was approved by the Trusts and Charities Committee on 29th July 2016. Following that internal decision, the approval of the Charities Commission was sought and obtained, and a copy of the relevant email dated 6th September 2016 is attached to this decision.</p> <p>The remainder of the recommendations in this decision will enable the continued delivery of the restoration project.</p>
Briefing notes documents:	Highfields DD Sept 2016 background.doc
Other Options Considered:	<p>To not allocate the additional funding: If the additional funding is not allocated, major items will need to be removed from the project, compromising the scheme and potentially putting the Heritage Lottery Funding at risk. For this reason, this option was rejected.</p>
Background Papers:	Charities Commission email - 6th September 2016
Unpublished background papers:	2016-09-06 Charities Commission email p1 only.pdf
Published Works:	<p>1) Portfolio Holder Decision ref: 2285 - Highfields Park Restoration Project - 22nd December 2015</p> <p>2) Report to Executive Board, 22nd July 2014 - Highfields Park: Heritage Lottery Fund, Parks For People Restoration and Improvement Project: Stage Two Application - Key Decision</p> <p>3) Report to Trusts and Charities Committee, 29th July 2016 - Highfields Park Sports Ground LTA Tennis Court Improvements</p>
Affected Wards:	Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey
Colleague / Councillor Interests:	None
Consultations:	<p>Date: 29/07/2016</p> <p>Other City Council Bodies: Trusts & Charities Committee</p>

Approval for the release of £200,000 from the Highfields Leisure Trust dowry.

Date: 05/09/2016

Other: Charities Commission, 06/09/16

Approval for the release of £200,000 from the Highfields Leisure Trust dowry.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder
Implications:

The restoration project aims to improve the park and increase visitor numbers.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: There is no proposal for new or changing policies / services / functions or financial decisions that would have a major impact on services.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

27/10/2016

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance

Legal Advice:

1.The proposals in this decision raise no significant legal issues but regard will need to be had to the terms and conditions attached to the source of funding, namely the Highfields Park Leisure Trust dowry and the requirements of the Charity Commission which has authorised the release of the monies.

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 detailed 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 29/09/2016.

Finance Advice:

This decision seeks approval to incur additional expenditure of £200,000 in respect of the Highfields Park Restoration Project. The current approval for this project is £4,636,036 following the decisions at July 2014 Executive Board and delegated decision number 2285 in December 2015. The increase in cost is predominantly due to additional work required following consultation feedback from the Environment Agency as part of the planning approval.

The increase in cost will be funded from the Highfields Park Leisure Trust dowry. The balance of this fund at 31 March 2016 was £885,500. As a result of this and previous decisions, the balance on this fund will reduce to £188,500.

The Council's Trust and Charities Committee in July 2016 approved the release of £200,000 from the Highfields Park Leisure Trust dowry. Approval from the Charities Commission was received in early September 2016.

Advice provided by Maria Balchin (Finance Analyst) on 08/09/2016.

Signatures

David Trimble (Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture)
SIGNED and Dated: 19/10/2016
Andrew Vaughan (Corporate Director Commercial and Operations)
SIGNED and Dated: 06/10/2016