

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	3568
Author:	Nikki Lawson
Department:	Commercial and Operations
Contact:	Nikki Lawson (Job Title: Community Sport Manager, Email: nikki.lawson@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 0115 8761615)
Subject:	Short Track Speed Skating Performance Programme
Total Value:	£100,000 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To accept a grant of £100,000 from Sport England.2. Delegate authority to the Director for Sport Culture and Parks to sign the grant award agreement with Sport England.3. Delegate Authority to the Director for Sport Culture and Parks to negotiate and sign a grant funding agreement with the National Ice Centre to provide the £100,000.00 of funding for the Short Track Speed Skating Program.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>The GB Short Track Speed Skating World Class Programme has been receiving investment from UK Sport since 2000, when it centralised in Nottingham at the National Ice Centre. During this time training out of the NIC, the World Class Programme has been extremely successful with many extraordinary performances which have helped to grow and develop the sport.</p> <p>In July 2018, UK Sport announced that they were to remove funding for the GB Short Track Speed Skating Academy. Therefore, it is believed to be essential to maintain the future success of the sport internationally and domestically that a high performance programme is put in place that can nurture and best prepare athletes to compete on the Olympic and World stage.</p> <p>The new Speed Skating Performance Programme will not only support the people within it, but furthermore will create a positive development environment whereby they can thrive. A six month trial period (year 1) has been in place since October 2018, and grant funding of £100,000.00 from Sport England is required to continue with further years of the programme.</p> <p>The year 1 mission of the Speed Skating Performance Programme was to establish the programme and fundamental to this is to be able to create a reserve pot in the budget and to secure vital investment from Sport England to support sustainability and manage future financial risk. The requirement to source matched funding is the responsibility of the National Ice Centre as per the SSSP Strategy and does not sit with NCC.</p> <p>There will be a named link Officer from NCC to act as liaison between NIC and NCC to ensure terms of grant funding agreement are monitored.</p>

Other Options Considered: 1. Do not accept the Award to grant fund the Short Track Speed Skating Development Program. This would seriously impact on the ability of the National Ice Centre to be able to deliver the program and as such would impede the development of young speed skaters onto the international performance platform and potentially impact on Olympic representation for Nottingham athletes.

Background Papers: None

Published Works: None

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Any Information Exempt from publication: Yes

Exempt Information:

Description of what is exempt: The document named SSPP Strategy is exempt due to the inclusion of sensitive financial details which are subject to current negotiation.

An appendix (or appendices) to this decision is exempt from publication under the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

3 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because the document contains financial information that is currently at the point of negotiation.

Documents exempt from publication: SSPP Strategy V6.0 FINAL.docx

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

None

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: No adverse equality issues were identified and an EIA would not be proportionate.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

10/07/2019

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance

Legal Advice:

The City Council must comply with the terms of the Sport England funding award agreement. It is understood that the Short Track Speed Skating Program is not a legal entity and therefore the funding is to be provided by the City Council to the National Ice Centre (NIC). The City Council will be accountable to Sport England for the funding and therefore notwithstanding that the NIC is a wholly owned subsidiary of the City Council there should be a funding agreement between the NCI and the City Council, which replicates the Sport England award agreement conditions, to hold NIC accountable to the City Council for the funding.

Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 04/02/2019 (reviewed and confirmed 28/06/19).

Finance Advice:

The Council has been awarded grant totalling £0.100m from Sport England, though to date, details of grant conditions have not been received. The Council will then provide funding to the Nottingham Ice Arena (NIC) subject to a grant funding agreement. As the Council will be the accountable organisation for this funding from Sport England, it is essential that it complies with the grant conditions. The grant funding agreement with NIC will need to include the Sport England grant conditions to ensure that the Council does not incur clawback of grant funding.

There is no expectation for the Council to provide match funding for this grant. The grant will be awarded to the Council during financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20, and therefore it is essential that the grant income and expenditure are consistent in order to avoid any pressures in future years.

Advice provided by Maria Balchin (Finance Analyst) on 05/02/2019 (reviewed and confirmed 01/07/19).

Signatures

David Trimble (Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and IT)
SIGNED and Dated: 25/06/2019
Andy Vaughan (Corporate Director Commercial and Operations)
SIGNED and Dated: 25/06/2019