

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

**Reference Number:**

**3649**

**Author:**

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**Department:**

**Development and Growth**

**Contact:**

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**Subject:**

**Extension of funding agreement for European Structural and Investment Funds - Intermediate Body TA: Regional & International Officer European Liaison**

**Total Value:**

**£53,329 (Type: Revenue)**

**Decision Being Taken:**

**To retrospectively approve the extension to the funding agreement for the Nottingham Intermediate Body Technical Assistance role (Regional & International Officer European Liaison) with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), the managing authority for the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), for two additional years to the end of March 2021.**

**Reasons for the Decision(s)** We currently have a funding agreement with MHCLG to support the delivery of the Nottingham Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) strategy, part of ESIF worth £11 million to the urban area of Nottingham between 2014 and 2020. This supports the post of the Regional & International Officer European Liaison for Nottingham ESIF SUD Technical Assistance in the Economic Development service. ESIF supports 50% of the funding for the project, with this matched by funding from Nottingham City Council. The original three year funding ended in March 2019. This decision would extend the funding for a further two years to the end of March 2021. Agreement for a funding extension has already been agreed by MHCLG. The total value of the decision is £53,329 (the cost to Nottingham City Council), which will bring in £53,329 from ESIF to support the role. Nottingham City Council acts as the Intermediate Body (IB) for the selection of projects to deliver the SUD strategy, which focuses on the development of energy efficient business incubators (capital build and improvements; and revenue funding for business support to start ups and growing enterprises). Applicants can access a fund of around £11 million to support these projects. Currently there are projects in the pipeline to support business incubation activity delivered by Nottingham Trent University, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Nottingham City Council. The role of Technical Assistance funded by ESIF and Nottingham City Council is to manage the funding, working closely with MHCLG who are the UK managing authority for the funds. The development of business incubators is part of the Nottingham City Growth Strategy and links closely with other work being carried out in Economic Development, particularly that of the Growth Hub. The project minimises the cost of supporting the programme to the Council by bringing in 50% match funding support and plays a leading role in developing and delivering the SUD strategy with local partners from the public, private and voluntary sector, as well as national government through the involvement of MHCLG.

**Briefing notes documents:** NOT FOR PUBLICATION Nottingham SUD strategy briefing - for information.docx

**Other Options Considered:** 1. Doing nothing. This would mean that the match funding from the EU could not be drawn down and would put a post and the delivery of the £11m SUD strategy at risk. For this reason this option was rejected.

**Background Papers:** None.

**Published Works:** Executive board minutes: 20th October 2015 - agenda item 39, Intermediate Body Status for European Structural and Investment Funds Sustainable Urban Development Programme.

**Affected Wards:** Citywide

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:** None.

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

**Crime and Disorder Implications:**

The SUD strategy supports the creation of business incubators and business growth in the Nottingham area, providing opportunities to create jobs for local residents, thus increasing economic inclusion and addressing some underlying reasons for criminal activity. Projects supported by the SUD strategy will need to demonstrate that they have addressed security issues in the design phase.

**Equality:**

EIA not required. Reasons: This is not a new function or service.

**Relates to staffing:**

Yes

**Decision Type:**

Portfolio Holder

**Subject to Call In:**

No  
The call-in procedure does not apply to the proposed decision because the delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (or Vice-Chair) in his/her absence has been consulted and agreed both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all circumstances and that it should be treated as a matter of urgency.

Person Consulted: N/A  
Consultation Date: 05/09/2019  
This decision is not subject to call in because it is retrospective.

**Advice Sought:**

Legal, Finance, Human Resources

**Legal Advice:**

There are no significant legal issues arising from this proposal. As this is an extension to a funding arrangement it is assumed that there are no amendments to any funding conditions.  
  
Advice provided by Naomi Vass (Senior Solicitor) on 04/09/2019.

**Finance Advice:**

The total cost of the Regional and International officer European Liaison role which includes 15% overheads will cost £106,658 over 2 years up to March 2021.  
  
The role is to be partly met by 50% (£53,329) council match funding, which is to come from the council's base budget within Economic Development and 50% MHCLG funding (£53,329).  
  
The 50% of funding from MHCLG has been agreed on the basis of compliance with grant conditions. It is the responsibility of the Regional and International officer European Liaison officer to meet the terms of condition of accurate submission of quarterly claims, providing sufficient and appropriate evidence to enable the 50% MHCLG funding to be received.  
  
Advice provided by Roma Desai (Commercial Business Partner) on 09/08/2019.

**HR Advice:**

**As the extension of funding is linked to the extension of funding for a position, an appropriate exit strategy must be in place in order to terminate the contract in line with NCC guidance in the event that the post cannot be maintained on a permanent basis at the end of the extended funding period i.e. 31.03.2021. Management will need to ensure appropriate timelines are in place to notify the affected employee and give appropriate notice. Additionally, the cost of any redundancy payment and pension strain costs will need to be met from the Departmental budget.**

**Shilpa Arya  
HR Consultant**

**Extension 62120 Advice provided by Shilpa Arya (HR Consultant) on 19/08/2019.**

**Signatures**

**Sam Webster (PH Finance, Growth and City Centre)**

**SIGNED and Dated: 18/09/2019**

**Chris Henning (Corporate Director for Development and Growth)**

**SIGNED and Dated: 05/09/2019**