

Report To:	CABINET	DATE:	21st June 2022
Heading:	FUNDING UPDATE AND LAND ACQUISITION		
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR MATTHEW RELF, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE TRANSFORMATION CLLR HELEN-ANN SMITH, DEPUTY LEADER AND EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME REDUCTION CLLR DAVID MARTIN, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR FINANCE, REVENUES AND BENEFITS		
Ward/s:	ALL WARDS		
Key Decision:	YES		
Subject to Call-In:	YES		

Purpose of Report

To provide an update to Cabinet regarding a number of government funding streams.

Recommendation(s)

1. To note the update regarding the Towns Fund and Future High Streets programmes.
2. To authorise the acquisition of land required for the following Towns Fund projects: 1) North Kirkby Gateway 2) West Kirkby Gateway, and delegate authority for the Executive Lead Member for Finance and Benefits and the Director for Resources and Business to finalise the negotiations and agree Heads of Terms with the landlord and the Director of Legal and Governance to complete the legal transactions.
3. To delegate authority to the Executive Lead Member for Regeneration and Corporate Transformation and the Director Place and Communities to submit a bid for the allocated funding for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

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Recommendation(s)

4. To confirm the Discover Ashfield Board will fulfil the role of Local Partnership Group to develop and implement an Investment Plan in conjunction with the Ashfield Skills Partnership for the UKSPF.
5. To delegate authority to the Executive Lead Member for Regeneration and Corporate Transformation and the Director Place and Communities to submit a bid for funding for Hucknall to the Levelling Up Fund.
6. To note the submission of a bid to the Home Office for Safer Streets 4 and to delegate authority to the Executive Lead Member for Community Safety and Crime Reduction and the Director Place and Communities (subject to a successful outcome) to accept the funding and to deliver the programme.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on progress with delivery of the Towns Fund and Future High Streets programmes and is supportive of submissions to the UKSPF, Levelling Up Fund and Safer Streets bids to Government.

Land acquisition – to enable the Council to acquire land to deliver two of the Towns Fund projects in Kirkby.

Alternative Options Considered

1. Not to note the update – not recommended.
2. Not to support submission of the UKSPF, Levelling Up Fund and Safer Streets bids – not recommended. The bids would bring significant funding into the District and support delivery of a wide range of projects and initiatives to support the Council's Corporate Plan and ambitious regeneration plans for the District. not recommended.
3. Not to approve the land acquisition for the two Towns Fund projects in Kirkby - not recommended. Funding has been secured for both projects which will achieve significant regeneration benefits for the area. not recommended.

Detailed Information

1. Towns Fund and Future High Streets

1.1 Future High Streets Fund

The four projects within the programme are:

1. High Pavement building repurposing
2. Low Street retail units refurbishment / repurposing
3. Sutton Academy Theatre
4. Fox Street, public realm project

The High Pavement building, and Low Street retail repurposing projects have completed the design development stage. The procurement of the construction contracts is now underway, and the projects are on schedule for completion in early 2023.

Sutton Academy Theatre; early design scoping work has been completed alongside the initial branding and business plan development phases. The project is being developed in partnership with the Academy Transformation Trust Further Education (Sutton Academy College).

The Fox Street public realm project is in the initial stakeholder engagement and design planning stage. The project has been aligned to the development of the Towns Fund Portland Square project to achieve a consistent design approach, enhancing the regeneration benefits.

1.2 Towns Fund

Following the heads of terms being agreed for **£62.6 million** of Towns Funding in July 2021, project development teams have been established to complete a business case for each of the projects in accordance with the guidance set out by HM Treasury.

The governance structure for the approval of the business cases is set out in the Local Assurance Framework which has been accepted by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

Seven projects have completed the local assurance process which sets out the phased actions which will be required to enable the projects to progress through the delivery stage.

The projects that have been assured are:

1. TF 05 Enterprise Ashfield. *(Approved subject to clarification on subsidy control)*.
2. TF16 Visitor Digital *(Approved. In delivery phase)*
3. TF014 Portland Square *(Approved for delivery stage subject to a review of the detailed cost plan)*.
4. TF01 Civil Engineering Centre *(Approved subject to subsidy control review and financial model clarification)*.
5. TF08 Kings Mill Reservoir Leisure project *(Approved subject to subsidy control review and financial model clarification)*.
6. TF03 ADMC (Automated Distribution and Manufacturing Centre). Business case to be reviewed by DLUHC. *(Subject to subsidy control review and financial model and governance clarification)*.
7. TF07 High Street Property Fund *(Deferred / on hold whilst the feasibility of the housing company delivery model is completed / approved)*.

A programme for all business case completion / submission dates is set out below.

Project	Business Case Summary submission to DLUHC
Be Healthy Be Happy	
North Kirkby Gateway	15.09.22
Kirkby Sports Hub	11.10.22
Sutton Lawn Sports Hub	11.10.22
More to Discover	
Sutton Town Centre	
Low Street Property Purchase & Repurposing - FHSF	Completed
Fox Street - FHSF	Completed
Sutton Theatre - FHSF	Completed
Portland Square, Sutton	Completed
Visitor Economy	
Cycling and walking routes	15.07.2022
Visitor digital offer	Completed
Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium	10.08.2022
Kings Mill Reservoir leisure development	13.5.2022
Succeed in Ashfield	
Maker Space and business hub (Sutton) - FHSF	Completed
ADMC (Kirkby/Sutton)	Mid-June 2022
Ashfield Construction Centre and Satellite (Sutton) and vehicle maintenance	15.07.2022
Ashfield Civil Engineering Centre	Completed
Enterprising Ashfield	Completed
Library Innovation Centres - Kirkby & Sutton	10.8.2022
Greener Ashfield	
West Kirkby Gateway & public transport hub	15.7.2022
Green Ashfield	15.7.2022
High Street Property Fund	TBC
Portland Street Sustainable Housing (Kirkby)	09.09.2022

1.3 Programme due diligence

The restrictions placed upon public bodies as part of Subsidy Control regulations (formerly State Aid when the UK was part of the European Union) aim to prevent market distortion through the granting of an unfair economic advantage. They come into play whenever a public body seeks to grant financial assistance (such as a grant or loan) to an organisation.

Following the UK's exit from the EU on 31 January 2020, the UK was legally obliged to continue applying the EU State aid rules during the transition period. The transition period ended on 31 December 2020. Following the transition period, the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) places subsidy control obligations on UK public bodies. The Subsidy Control Act 2022 will

create the new subsidy control regime for the UK (which will replace the TCA regime) when the Act comes into force in Autumn 2022.

As part of the Towns Fund due diligence, the Council is required to ensure all projects comply with Subsidy Control legislation. Each project will be assessed by external lawyers in conjunction with the in-house team to identify if there is a subsidy situation arising from the proposed model and if so whether this is a lawful subsidy. Subsidies can be challenged by an aggrieved “interested party” for a review by the Competition Appeal Tribunal (CAT) which is why it is essential the Council carries out appropriate due diligence before proceeding with a project.

Members should note that to date the following projects have been assessed by external lawyers:

- TF16 Visitor Digital – satisfied this project complies with subsidy control
- TF014 Portland Square - satisfied this project complies with subsidy control
- TF 05 Enterprising Ashfield – further due diligence work to be undertaken
- TF01 Civil Engineering Centre - further due diligence work to be undertaken
- TF07 High Street Property Fund – further due diligence work to be undertaken, subject to work relating to the creation of a housing company and clarity on the delivery model.

1.4 Project highlight report

A summary of progress for each project is provided below.

Project	Achievements/ progress/next steps
Be Healthy Be Happy	
North Kirkby Gateway	Discussions with the CCG, GP practices, are progressing. Early negotiation with landowners and a developer has commenced.
Kirkby Sports Hub	The design team has been appointed to complete RIBA stage 2 design and cost plans. The cost plan will provide the necessary information for the business case to be finalised. Initial design work has been completed and stakeholder engagement is ongoing.
Sutton Lawn Sports Hub	
More to Discover	
Sutton Town Centre	
Low Street Property Purchase & Repurposing - FHSF	Low Street retail repurposing projects have completed the design development stage. The procurement of the construction contracts is now underway and the projects are on schedule for completion in early 2023. Wider discussions are ongoing with landowners of vacant properties on Low Street.
Fox Street (FHSF) and Portland Square	The Fox Street public realm project is in the initial stakeholder engagement and design planning stage. The project has been aligned to the development of the Towns Fund Portland Square project to ensure a consistent design approach, enhancing the regeneration benefits.
Sutton Theatre - FHSF	Early design scoping work has been completed alongside the initial branding and business plan development phases. The project is being developed in partnership with the Academy Transformation Trust Further Education (Sutton Academy College).
Visitor Economy	
Cycling and walking routes	The draft business case has been completed and has started the assurance phase.

Cycling and walking routes Phase 1 (Accelerated Fund)	The project has now reached practical completion.
Visitor digital offer	The project has been approved and is now in the delivery stage. The procurement of a design team is being progressed including the development of a marketing strategy.
Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium	The RIBA Stage 2 design development and cost planning has progressed which has highlighted pressures on the budget from inflation increases. The project team are now reviewing cost saving options and finalising the business case.
Kings Mill Reservoir leisure development	The draft business case has been completed subject to the receipt of detailed financial information. The design team has been appointed and initial site assessments and surveys are underway with the options to secure a new operator for the leisure building being progressed.
Succeed in Ashfield	
Maker Space and business hub (Sutton) - FHSF	The detailed design work has been completed and the planning application and procurement of the construction phase work are underway. The initial branding work for the site is progressing.
ADMC (Kirkby/Sutton)	The draft business case has completed the local assurance pathway and recommendations have been made for refinement before the business case is submitted to DLUHC for review. Negotiation for the land assembly is ongoing and subsidy control advice is being obtained.
Ashfield Construction Centre and Satellite (Sutton) and vehicle maintenance	The draft business case is progressing and the options appraisal for the land assembly is being reviewed. Subsidy control advice is being obtained.
Ashfield Civil Engineering Centre	The project business case has been finalised and the assurance process completed for Section 151 officer sign off. Initial Subsidy control advice has been obtained which identified that further scrutiny is required.
Enterprising Ashfield	The project team has now been appointed and the marketing strategy is underway. The project team are exploring options for establishing a base in Kirkby and Sutton Town Centres.
Library Innovation Centres - Kirkby & Sutton	The project business case has been finalised and the assurance process is due to commence in readiness for July sign off.
Greener Ashfield	
West Kirkby Gateway & public transport hub	The project business case has been finalised and the assurance process is due to commence in readiness for July sign off. Early negotiation with landowners and a developer has commenced. Design / feasibility work is being progressed for the bus interchange.
Green Ashfield	The project business case is under development and a programme of feasibility work will commence on the 1 st June which will contribute to finalising the business case.
High Street Property Fund	Business case has been developed, however the recommendation for approval is subject to the development and approval by ADC of a business case for a private sector housing company.
Portland Street Sustainable Housing (Kirkby)	The draft business case has been developed and is being reviewed before the project is finalised and put forward for review.

2.0 Acquisition of Land

Two projects are progressing through the business case development stage and require early acquisition of land to minimise project risks. The North Kirkby Gateway and West Kirkby Gateway projects include land that has been identified which has been vacant for a prolonged period or is underused, contributing little benefit towards the regeneration of the town centre.

The project team has completed initial assessments of each piece of land to establish estimated land value and any high-level constraints that could influence the land value and deliverability of the schemes.

All land purchase negotiations will be overseen by Ashfield District Council's Service Manager - Commercial Development. The negotiations will be managed with consideration to current land values, delivery constraints and market pressures. The purchase of the land detailed above will be fully funded through the Towns Fund programme and will be within the funding envelope of the individual project budgets.

In order for land transactions to proceed swiftly in the event that acquisition terms can be agreed, Cabinet is asked to authorise the acquisition of land required for the 1) North Kirkby Gateway 2) West Kirkby Gateway, and delegate authority for the Executive Lead Member for Finance and Benefits and the Director for Resources and Business to finalise the negotiations and agree Heads of Terms with the landlord and the Director of Legal and Governance to complete the legal transactions.

3. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

The primary goal of the UKSPF is to build pride in place and increase life chances to support the Levelling Up White Paper missions, particularly: 'By 2030, pride in place, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.'

Recognising the acute challenges town centres and communities have faced during the pandemic, the funding will improve the places people live in, and support individuals and businesses. It will drive noticeable improvements that matter to local communities, foster local pride in place and increase life chances including health outcomes, supporting high quality skills training, supporting pay, employment and productivity growth.

- Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector
- Spread opportunities and improve public services
- Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging
- Empower local leaders and communities.

Overview

Ashfield District Council has been allocated **£3,192,135** over three years from this financial year onwards to support three themes:

1. Communities and place

Enable places to invest to restore their community spaces and relationships and create the foundations for economic development at the neighbourhood-level. The intention of this is to strengthen the social fabric of communities, supporting in building pride in place, activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community-led projects.

- Building resilient, safe and healthy neighbourhoods, investment in quality places through targeted improvements to the built environment and innovative approaches to crime prevention.

2.Supporting local business

Supporting local business investment priority will enable places to fund interventions that support local businesses to thrive, innovate and grow

- Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, investments that build on existing industries and institutions, support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality and leisure sector facilities.
- Promoting networking and collaboration, bringing together businesses and partners to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth.
- Increasing private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, targeted support for SMEs for new-to-firm innovation, productivity-enhancing, energy efficient and low carbon technologies and techniques, and start or grow exports.

3.People and skills

To help reduce the barriers some people face to employment and support them to move towards employment and education. Places can also target funding into skills for local areas to support employment and local growth. **From 2024-25 onwards**, unless projects meet the voluntary sector considerations (due to existing EU funding) UKSPF will be the main source of funding to support employment provision for economically inactive people. Local areas should ensure investment in employment support is tailored to local needs and facilitate the join-up of mainstream provision and local services, through the use of keyworker support and community interventions, including engagement with integrated care systems.

- There are 41 Interventions within the three themes, councils can also use bespoke interventions if they can demonstrate that they will meet local challenges.
- The Fund will focus on communities and place and local business interventions in 2022-23 and 2023-24, alongside support for people through the Multiply - adult numeracy programme being delivered by Nottinghamshire County Council.
- The fund can be used to complement funding such as the Levelling Up Fund, and mainstream employment and skills provision to maximise impact and simplify delivery
- A £20,000 payment for development is available in the first year and a maximum of 4% of the allocation can be used for fund administration.
- UKSPF is predominantly a revenue fund with a small capital percentage (Year 1 – 10%, Year 2 -13%, Year 3 - 20%) but this can be increased if required.

UKSPF Ashfield allocation				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Total: £3,192,135	387,395	774,790	2,029,950	3,192,135
Fund admin. up to 4%	15,496	56,095	56,095	127,685
Sub-total	371,899	718,695	1,973,855	3,064,450
Revenue (90%,87%,80%)	334,709	625,265	1,579,084	2,539,058

Capital (10%,13%,20%)	37,190	93,430	394,771	525,391
Development work	20,000			20,000
Total	407,395	774,790	2,029,950	3,212,135

- A Local Partnership Group is required to develop and implement an Investment Plan – the Discover Ashfield Board has agreed to fulfil this role, in conjunction with the Ashfield Skills Partnership.
- Government strongly encourages delivery of interventions at a larger geographical scale, including delivery of business support and people and skills over wider geographies, e.g. Nottinghamshire, but also the delivery of interventions with any authority in England if appropriate.
- The deadline for submission of the Investment Plan is 1st August. We will be asked to return any underspends at the end of each financial year.
- Match funding will not be required and will not be a factor in the assessment. We are strongly encouraged to consider match funding from the private, public and third sectors and leverage options when selecting communities and place and supporting local business interventions to fund. Confirmed/anticipated match funding or leveraged funding should be included in the plan, with regular updates on the match funding/leverage part of reporting responsibilities.

Next steps

Outlined below is a draft programme for development of the bid.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund - Draft Submission Programme		Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
1 Set up								
1.1	Discover Ashfield Board to agree to act as local partnership		6th					
1.2	Ashfield Skills Partnership - to agree to report to the DA board		24th					
2 Plan development								
2.1	Development of ideas - officers							
2.1	Initial review of ideas with Portfolio Holder(s)							
2.2	Members workshop							
2.3	Partners/ stakeholders workshops							
2.5	CLT/Leadership update			14th or 28th	12th 26th			
2.6	Prepare draft plan and supporting information - Expenditure Profile & Indicative Deliverables spreadsheets							
3 Sign off & submission								
3.1	CLT/Leadership sign off				26th			
3.2	DA Board sign off			10th	8th & 22nd			
3.4	Investment Plan submission					1st		
3.5	Feedback/ Plan agreed by DLUHC							
4 Delivery								
4.1	Oct./Nov. onwards							

Investment should demonstrate the extent of contribution to net zero and nature recovery objectives, including the UK's legal commitment to cut greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, wider environmental considerations, such as resilience to natural hazards and the 25 Year Environment Plan commitments.

To support green growth, places should also consider how projects can work with the natural environment to achieve project objectives, and – as a minimum – consider the project's impact on our natural assets and nature.

Role of MPs

The guidance states that:

- MPs should be closely engaged in the design and delivery of the plan, providing an advisory role and reviewing the plan prior to submission.
- Lead authorities need to demonstrate that they have actively reached out to MPs and other partners. The investment plan needs to demonstrate local consensus for the plan. Failure of one or more MPs to agree would not prevent consideration of the Investment Plan.
- Encouraged to engage with MPs on a periodic basis, post plan sign-off – including through regular reviews/meetings of the partnership group in its delivery phase – this can be facilitated through the existing monthly Discover Ashfield Board meetings.

Investment plan

The Investment Plan will need to provide: local evidence of opportunities and challenges against the three priorities; Outcomes and interventions; Approach to delivery and governance: structures and processes. Engagement undertaken, including engagement with MPs and collaboration with other places; Expenditure and deliverables: including spend profile, outputs and outcomes.

The Fund can support investment in interventions that start from 1 April 2022 as well as administrative and preparatory costs. All interventions should end by March 2025.

The guidance suggests that a mix of competition (which is the default approach Cabinet Office Grants Standards), procurement, commissioning, and delivery through in-house teams is used to deliver the Investment Plan. For example, some community level interventions may require a commissioning or in-house approach, recognising that competitions for grant may create barriers to participation in left behind communities.

Annex 1 provides further information about the fund, including the list of interventions.

- **Multiply - Adult numeracy programme**

This programme will target all adults without a GCSE grade C in maths with £4,255,273 allocated to Nottinghamshire County Council. Government is developing a digital platform for people to access learning. Bespoke tutoring will be made available and can fund outreach work.

4. Levelling Up Fund

The £4.8 billion Levelling Up Fund is part of the Government's investment programme. The Fund will invest in infrastructure that improves everyday life across the UK, including regenerating town centres and high streets, upgrading local transport, and investing in cultural and heritage assets. The Fund will focus on capital investment in local infrastructure that has a visible impact on people and their communities.

The Hucknall Levelling Up Fund bid will be based on expanding the potential for transport connectivity for Hucknall and across the District of Ashfield for the next 25 years, as well as regenerating Hucknall town centre and improving the cultural and leisure offer. The key aim of the bid is to enhance the perception of Hucknall as a great place; cherished by those who live there, desirable to those who visit and enabling to those who bring jobs and investment.

Consultants Integrated Transport Planning have been appointed to work with officers on the bid preparation. A longlist of projects has been drawn up and is in the process of being assessed against the Fund criteria. Stakeholder engagement workshops and Councillor update sessions have been held as part of the bid development process. MP Mark Spencer has confirmed that he is supportive of the bid.

The aims of the funding have been assessed alongside the Council's priorities. This had led to the development of three packages:

1. Access to Hucknall Town Centre – focus on improving transport interchanges and improved links and way finding.
2. Skills and Economy Development – working with partners such as Nottingham Trent University and Inspire to develop responses and also build on developments/ best practice through the Towns Fund (Enterprising Ashfield project).
3. Cultural/ Leisure Zone/ Town Centre Gateway – making more of the town's history and developing the visitor economy building on the success of the Byron Cinema, improving the public realm and providing opportunities for young people.

The deadline for bid submission is 6 July. There is the opportunity to bid for funding of up to £20million for the total cost of all three packages, with a requirement to find 10% match funding. Funding has to be spent by March 2025.

5. Safer Streets

This is a joint partnership bid with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Mansfield District Council, supported by the Mansfield and Ashfield Community Safety Partnership. The funding would support activity and interventions for the Coxmoor Estate, Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Warsop, Mansfield.

Announced in February, Safer Streets 4 is part of a national programme that focuses on addressing community concerns relating to women's and girls' safety, violence, and the perception of crime in public spaces.

The main aims are to:

1. Reduce neighbourhood crime: domestic burglary, robbery, theft and vehicle crime
2. Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour
3. Reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG) in public spaces
4. Increase feelings of safety in Public Spaces (VAWG and ASB)
5. Make local areas safer and reduce demand on the police to focus on higher harm crimes.

Safer Streets 3 focused on Outram Street, Sutton and included other areas of the town, the project was delivered within a short timeframe from October 2021 to March 2022. The project delivered significant benefits to the area including enhanced CCTV and street lighting, a Safe Space initiative with local businesses and environmental improvements. The learning from the project will support the

Safer Streets 4 bid and a longer timeframe (c.18 months) will support enhanced outputs and outcomes. Securing funding for the Coxmoor area, one of the Council's Priority Areas would also complement the insight work being undertaken in partnership with the health service, as well as opportunities through the Youth Improvement Fund.

The bid was prepared and submitted on 13th May.

The use of crime benchmarking and perception surveys was undertaken to demonstrate the chosen target areas are disproportionately impacted by neighbourhood crime. Following an initial review of areas most affected by neighbourhood crime and feelings of safety, the Coxmoor Estate was highlighted as an area suitable for funding support.

The maximum funding of £750,000 is available for the Mansfield and Ashfield Community Safety Partnership. Match funding of a minimum of 50% is required, equating to hours spent delivering the project. The funding is likely to be split 50/50 between Coxmoor and Warsop, resulting in investment of £375k in Coxmoor.

The following interventions are included within the bid:

Education

- Schools Delivery/Interventions
- Stakeholder Delivery and Training
- Youth Activities
- Crime Prevention Advice

Prevention

- Environmental Improvements
- Intensive support for 10 high demanding families/individuals
- Deployable CCTV Cameras
- Automatic Number Plate Recognition
- Safe Point Camera
- Street Lighting
- Marketing campaign
- Community Cohesion / resident participation programme

Enforcement

- Environmental Crime Operations
- ASB Operations
- SAC Operations
- Tenancy Enforcement Interventions
- Perpetrator Management
- Hi-Vis. Targeted patrols

The bid includes a co-ordinator role, funded between the authorities to support project delivery, an approach which worked well for delivery of Safer Streets 3 in Sutton.

Implications

Corporate Plan

Economic Growth and Place

Town Centres

1. Deliver key masterplans, including town centres and railway stations
2. Revitalise and re-purpose town centres by:-
 - a. Bringing empty buildings back into use
 - b. Diversifying the town centre economy
 - c. Capitalising on external funding

District Wide Physical Regeneration

Support economic growth by:

1. Delivering the Future High Streets and Towns Fund programmes

Cleaner and Greener

1. Improved public perception that Ashfield is a cleaner and more attractive place

Safer and Stronger

1. Increase identification and active targeting of offenders developing partnership patrol plans for hotspot locations.
2. Work with partners to improve positive activity and tasking
3. Review mechanisms for supporting resident's understanding of Ashfield's offer to tackle ASB
4. Continue to develop effective patrol plans and priorities for the community protection team, targeting hotspot areas.

Legal

The Legal Team and Director of Legal and Governance are actively supporting and advising in relation to all Towns Fund projects and will do the same in relation to future funded programmes.

The Subsidy Control requirements regarding Towns Fund project sign off are detailed in the main body of the report.

Finance: Where funding in this report is reliant on bids being successful, any monies secured will be spent in accordance with any specified funding conditions, including revenue/capital splits, spend deadlines, etc [PH 24/05/22].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	
General Fund – Capital Programme	The purchase of land for the North Kirkby Gateway and West Kirkby Gateway projects will be managed within the Towns Fund envelope of secured project budget approved on the capital programme.
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	None
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	None

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
<p>Subsidy Control challenge.</p> <p>Resourcing and delivery risks associated with multiple project/programme delivery</p>	<p>Risk is mitigated by the due diligence work undertaken as part of the sign off process.</p> <p>Corporate Risk identified. Appointment and engagement of staff and consultants to support the programmes where necessary. Project Management for each programme.</p>

Human Resources

No HR implications identified.

Environmental/Sustainability

Not applicable for this report. Sustainability is a priority of the Towns Fund programme.

Equalities

No issues identified for this report. Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken to support delivery of the Towns Fund and FHSF programmes.

Other Implications

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

Not applicable

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