

Report To:	CABINET
	21 st February 2023
Date:	
	FUNDING UPDATE
Heading:	
Executive Lead Member:	CLLR MATTHEW RELF, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE TRANSFORMATION
	CLLR SAMANTHA DEAKIN, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR PARKS, TOWN CENTRES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
	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 ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on funding allocations and progress of funded programmes.

To consider and approve the five-year Green Space and Public Realm Investment Plan.

To recommend to Council the addition of further Public Open Space Section 106 contributions to the Capital Programme.

Recommendation(s)

- 1. To note the progress for Future High Streets Fund (FHSF), Towns Fund, Levelling Up Fund and UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) programmes.
- To note the Council's successful bid for Levelling up funding and to approve acceptance of the £3.1 million of funding.
- To recommend to Council the approval of the five-year Green Space and Public Realm Investment Plan, subject to receipt of funds.
- 4. To recommend to Council, following receipt of funds, that income from Social Value contributions, grants and / or Section 106 funding be included on the Capital Programme as outlined in the report.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 1. To ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on progress with the funding programmes.
- 2. To ensure that projects and spend within the funding programmes are delivered within the set timeframes and programme budget envelope.
- 3. To ensure funding is spent collaboratively and effectively.
- 4. To note the Council's successful bid for Levelling Up funding and to approve acceptance of the £3.1 million.
- 5. To ensure continued delivery of improvements in parks, green spaces and public realm with a rolling programme of investment.

Alternative Options Considered

1. Not to accept the £3.1 million funding from the Levelling Up Fund as match funding towards TF14 Science Discovery and Planetarium project - not recommended. The funding will significantly contribute towards the funding strategy to deliver the project and without the funding the project will not be able to progress.

2. Not to approve the five-year Green Space and Public Realm Investment Plan will result in the Council not being able to suitably resource investment where required to maintain high standards and safety standards of the green spaces and public realm.

3. Not to approve the Section 106 Public Open Space income being added to the Capital Programme: will result in the Council not being able to deliver the Corporate Plan priority of improvements in parks, green spaces and public realm.

Detailed Information

Funding Programmes

1. Future High Streets Fund

14 Low Street renovation work is progressing on site and remains forecast to complete within budget. The project completion has slipped by two weeks due to some amendments to the works during the contract phase and is estimated to complete March 2023.

9-11 Low Street and High Pavement projects have completed the detailed design and cost planning stages and remain within the expected budget envelope. The projects have jointly been put out to tender with the tender outcome due to be returned by early February. The estimated project completion is October 2023.

The Theatre Project design team is appointed and is progressing the design development within the envelope of funding secured including the potential re-allocation of £500k from the Towns Fund Programme. The Towns Fund allocation of £500k is subject to DLUHC approval.

The Fox Street project has completed the detailed design and cost planning stages and remains within the expected budget envelope. The project tender has been published and is due to close in early February.

2. Towns Fund

All 17 project business cases have been completed and approved through the local assurance process. The final six project summary documents for the projects listed 1-6 below have been signed off and submitted to DLUHC with all final monitoring and evaluation outputs.

- 1. TF09 Kingsway Sport Hub
- 2. TF15 Sutton Lawn Sports Hub
- 3. TF02 Construction Centre
- 4. TF06 Green Ashfield
- 5. TF11 North Kirkby Gateway
- 6. TF07 High Street Property Fund

The approval of the ADMC business case remains outstanding, the business case will be reviewed and re-submitted in the next few weeks once the site acquisition has been agreed with the landowner.

2.1 Project highlights report

A summary of progress for each project is provided below.

Project	Achievements/ progress/next steps
Be Healthy Be Happy	

North Kirkby Gateway	A high-level review of Compulsory Purchase Order powers against the project plan is being progressed.
	A high-level appraisal has been completed for the NHS revenue implication for moving the GP practices into a new build. The result has highlighted that there would be a significant increased revenue cost to the health sector. Further options are now being explored as alternatives to relocating the GP practices.
Kirkby Sports Hub	Delivery model options are now under review for both sports hub
Sutton Lawn Sports Hub	projects to ensure value for money is achieved.
More to Discover	
Sutton Town Centre	
Portland Square	The RIBA stage 4 design is being finalised. The tender for the contract is now live and will close early February. Subject to the costs remaining within the budget envelope the project will progress on site in March/ April 2023.
Sutton Academy Theatre (New Project – subject to DLUHC approval)	Please refer to FHSF section.
Visitor Economy	
Cycling and walking routes	Work is progressing on the first pilot project to establish the design standards for the whole project. Progress is being made to secure a design team to develop the project.
Visitor digital offer	The digital design team has been appointed. A new project manager has been secured to drive the project forward.
Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium	The planning application for the development has been submitted. It is anticipated the planning decision will be February / March 2023. The project partner is progressing the appointment of a new Design & Build contractor following the previous one going into administration. RIBA stage 4 detailed design is anticipated to be starting this month. Match funding of £3.1m has been secured from the Levelling Up Fund.
Kings Mill Reservoir leisure development	A Design and Build contractor has been appointed to complete RIBA stage4. Market testing has identified further value engineering requirements.Options are also being explored to reduce costs by changing the construction phase delivery model.
Succeed in Ashfield	
ADMC (Kirkby/Sutton)	Development of options for the land assembly are ongoing but are due to be concluded early February. The final business case will be submitted to DLUHC by mid- March.
Ashfield Construction Centre and Satellite	The grant agreement between Vison West Notts College (VWNC) and ADC has been developed and is being finalised.
Ashfield Civil Engineering Centre	The grant agreement between VWNC and ADC has been developed and is being finalised.
Enterprising Ashfield	A review of the project impact / achievements is being undertaken.
Library Innovation Centres - Kirkby & Sutton	The grant agreement between Inspire and ADC has been developed and is being finalised.

Greener Ashfield	
West Kirkby Gateway & public transport hub	Land has been secured subject to contract and a design team will now be appointed to develop designs for the site.
	Negotiations on another part of the site have stalled, however there is potential for a living accommodation project.
	Initial discussions have indicated a collaboration opportunity to achieve the outcomes from the Towns Fund submission. Discussions are ongoing.
Green Ashfield	The appointment of the design specialist is progressing and will be completed this month. The first allocation of funding has been completed following the installation of Photovoltaic panels on the 14 Low Street building in Sutton.
High Street Property Fund	Options to lease the units to an asset holding company which would let the residential units and agreement models are being explored.
Portland Street Sustainable Housing (Kirkby)	The project has been closed following approval by the Discover Ashfield Board as it was not financially viable.

3.0 Levelling Up Fund

Announcements regarding the outcome of round 2 of the Levelling Up Fund were made in January. The £3.1m bid for the Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium was successful but the £11m bid for Hucknall town centre was unfortunately unsuccessful on this occasion. We are awaiting detailed feedback from DLUHC about the Hucknall bid with the intention to resubmit for round 3.

4.0 UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Work is ongoing to develop the project programme for delivery. We received confirmation from DLUHC in December that our Investment Plan has been accepted. The table below outlines progress to date on the projects within the three themes.

The spend profile over the three years of the programme (provided by DLUHC) is as follows:

Year 1 – 2022/23	Year 2 – 2023/24	Year 3 – 2024/25	Total
387,395	774,790	2,029,950	3,192,135

There will be an underspend in year 1 as confirmation was received two months later than originally planned by DLUHC and due to the delay with the announcement of the Levelling Up Round 2 bids.

The programme spend profile is being reviewed and the underspend will be carried forward to be spent in year 2 (subject to formal DLUHC approval).

4.1 Projects update

	Communities and Place	
	Project	Update
E1	Hucknall Town Centre - High Street Property	To focus on the south end of High Street, will
	Improvement Fund	be delivered by ADC

E3	Selston Country Park Phase 2 improvements - play area, footpaths and biodiversity	Consultants commissioned to undertake design work
E5	Coxmoor Estate, Kirkby – environmental improvements to reduce crime & ASB	Being delivered with Safer Streets 4 programme. Consultants to be commissioned to undertake design work
	Hucknall Safer Streets initiative – CCTV/ Safe Spaces	Being delivered by ADC Community Safety Team
E6	Events and activities - increase resource/ create opportunities with local providers & groups	Options to be considered as part of events review Nov.22 - Feb. 23
	Visitor economy - Consultancy & officer role for visitor economy/tourism, arts & culture	Options being reviewed
E9	Kings Mill Ranger/ activities	Temporary post extension 50/50 funded with Nottinghamshire County Council
	Green Social prescribing, community growing / allotments / nursery	Project outline being developed during January
E10	Cycling and Walking for All- cycle training and access to refurbished bikes	Working with Ridewise and other partners in Year 1, focusing on the priority areas of Broomhill and Butler's Hill in Hucknall. Bike Refurbishment with a promotional campaign to encourage residents to donate bikes to be refurbished and donated. Cycle Confidence Sessions running through February and March, weekly sessions at Titchfield Park
E13	Financial resilience support for local communities	Delivery model to be agreed
	Community Vertical Farming initiative	Subject to 50/50 partner funding with Mansfield DC. Site to be agreed.
E15	Digital support for local communities	Delivery model to be agreed
	Supporting Local Business	
E16	Retail Enterprise grant - Enterprise grant for town centre properties and relocation/expansion	To be delivered by ADC
	Student programme for design/manufacture of shop fronts	Programme to be developed and delivered with partners, ADC/VWNC
	Online Trading Opportunities: develop online directory, media students to offer support services	Programme to be developed and delivered with partners
	Preopening support - ADMC	Scope to be agreed with ADMC project group
E18	Business advice and support - Adopting digital technologies	Draft briefing document being developed with NCC to invite partner proposals for county-wide
	Workforce development courses - short skills courses, targeting top 5 industries and emerging sectors, includes skills access hub, training needs analysis	delivery. commissioned projects due to start in July.
E19	Business advice and support - Improving productivity & innovation	
E23	Specialist events / talks	Programme being developed/ potential to link with Mansfield DC. Automation event being planned for May.
-20		
	High Pavement Business Hub - rental incentives	To be developed prior to building opening

E28 E29	Trading Overseas programme - support SMEs to identify new markets, attend overseas trade shows Business advice and support - decarbonisation (includes grant)	Draft briefing document being developed with NCC to invite partner proposals for county-wide delivery. Commissioned projects due to start in July.
	People and Skills	
E33	Support package for economically inactive incl. confidence building, social prescribing, coaching/ mentoring	Reviewing potential for Notts. wide commissioning with Notts. County Council support. The main funding for People and Skills becomes available in Year 3 (2024/25).
	Effective stakeholder engagement (signposting and referrals)	Potential to commission the following projects in Year 2 (2023/24) as local projects funded
E34	Basic Skills Courses - English/ESOL & Maths, IT & Life Skills	through the EU are coming to end: Support package for economically
E37	Education and Business Collaboration package - Grow Discover Ashfield Ambassador programme, Open Doors programmes (for students & teachers) - hybrid model, Work experience programme, Careers Service in schools	 inactive incl. confidence building, social prescribing, coaching/ mentoring Basic Skills Courses - English/ESOL & Maths, IT & Life Skills
E38	Talent attraction and retention package - Graduate talent match programme with Notts. & Derbys. universities	
	Digital training at Level 2 for employed & unemployed	
	Local Careers Service – targeting residents in employment - preparing them to move into priority sectors Training/Careers Hub – businesses/Ambassadors engaging with hub	

5.0 Five Year Green Space and Public Realm Investment Plan

The Council invested over £3.3 million in public open space and public realm between 2016 and 2021. Public open space makes an important contribution to quality of life for the residents of Ashfield by providing free, accessible provision at a local level making a significant contribution to health and wellbeing, social inclusion and physical regeneration. Public open space also contributes to vibrant neighbourhoods which attract people to want to live, work, visit and invest. Improvements to public realm help contribute to social inclusion, physical regeneration and enhance the attractiveness of our town centres increasing footfall and vibrancy.

A review of projects completed between 2016 and 2021 against the network of green space sites and public realm areas was undertaken in 2022 to identify where the next phase of investment will be required to maintain the high standards and upgrade play facilities which are reaching the end of the operational life. The next phase of investment will contribute to the facilities maintaining the required safety standards.

Workshops have been held with Members who have provided input into project options to be considered for future investment.

The table below sets out the projects identified through site inspections, workshops and current funding available. The proposed investment plan has been aligned to funding for the projects listed and prioritised where funding is available, together with which sites will require investment first due

to the age of equipment or non-compliance with the relevant standard, as well as the resourcing required to implement the improvements.

Where funding has been identified the project will be subject to receipt of funds by the Council. Funding options for the projects without funding will be reviewed after six months and the programme will be updated accordingly.

G	reen Space & Public Realm Investmen 2022/23 - 2027/28	t Plan			Delivery Year					
		Funding secured Y/N	Amount (£)	Funding source	22/23 23/24 24/25 25/26 26/27 27			27/28		
	Hucknall									
1	Central walk public realm improvements.	N	£O	S106		1				
2	High Street: Public realm leading to B&M from high street	N	£0	TBC			1	1		
3	Titchfield Park Management Plan	Y	£14,000	S106		1				
4	Washdyke Rec: Play area refurbishment	Y	£13,879	S106	1					
5	Nabbs Lane or Other in close proximity	Y	£14,034	S106				1		
6	Titchfield Street - Derelict land options subject to land transfer.	Y	£63,629	S106						
7	Albert Street Rec: Outdoor gym and Equipment removal / improvement	N	£0	ТВС				1		
8	Titchfield Park: Bandstand	N	£0	TBC					1	
	Kirkby									
1	Manor House: Raised planter	N	£0	ТВС		1				
2	Kirkby Cross - restore top / clean	N	£0	ТВС					1	
3	Footpaths: Sutton Middle Lane	N	£0	TR6		1				
4	Link footpath improvements between Van Elle and A38	N	£0	TR6			1			
5	BMX track upgrade Nuncargate	Y	£80,000	S106		1				
6	Middle Ground Annesley	N	£0	TBC						1
7	Boundary treatment Sutton Middle Lane / Chapel Street boundary	N	£0	ТВС		1				
8	Mayfield Street: Equipment review	N	£0	TBC						1
9	Portland Park: Site Improvements	N	£0	TBC				1		
10	Warwick Close: Gym	Y	£18,000	S106			1			
11	Kingsway Park Management Plan	Y	£191,245	S106	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Rural									
1	Selston Country Park: Play Space	Y	£130,000	UKSPF	1	1				

2	Selston Country Park Future Phase	N	£0	TBC					1	
3	Valentine Rec: Remove or up- grade play space - NCC (crossing point)	Ν	£0	ТВС		1				
4	Pye Hill Rec: Fence off dog walking area.	Ν	£0	TBC						1
5	Barrows Hill Lane: Westwood Footpath	Ν	£0	TBC					1	
6	Underwood raised bed	Ν	£0	TBC		1				
	Sutton									
1	John Whetton Park: Create bike track / trail	Y	£5,000	S106		1				
2	Hill Crescent Rec Ground - Check / review play area, reconfigure car park / boundary treatment	Ν	£0	TBC			1			
3	Twitchell Recreation Ground- Site improvements. (Cowpasture Lane) - new changing rooms	Ν	£0	S106				1		
4	Area off Taylor Crescent - improvements, possible community garden/allotments	Ν	£0	ТВС						1
6	Bluebell Wood Way - works on fencing and footpaths, new planting	Y	£30,000	S106			1			
7	Review options and apply for Green Flag Award – Year 1, Kings Mill Reservoir	Ν	ТВС	Officer time	1				1	1
8	Sutton Lawn lower play area - remove/ review need for replacement informal area	Ν	£0	ТВС	1					
9	Sutton Lawn outdoor gym refurbishment	Y	£14,000	S106	1					
10	Sutton Lawn – Management Plan	Y	£0	S106	1	1	1	1	1	1
11	Meden Bank relocate container and equipment	N	£0	TBC		1				
12	Huthwaite Welfare Park Phase 2 - Tennis courts, MUGA, exercise equipment, CCTV, general access improvements.	У	£192,000	S106			1			
13	Brierley Forest Park - Drainage improvements to play area	Ν	£0	S106		1				
14	Area on the back of Brand Lane - improvements so that it can be used as car park	N	£0	TBC			1			
17	Ashfields Estate - footpath works / pond improvements	Ν	£0	TBC				1		
18	Sutton Cemetery Wall restoration + War Memorial	Ν	£0	TBC			1			
19	Mill Waters - HLF Capital projects	Y	£60,000	HLF	1	1				
20	Kings Mill Reservoir - Viewing platform refurbishment	Ν	£0	S106	1					

21	Stamper Rec MUGA + Access. Check catchment area for youth provision	Y	£66,036	S106					1	
22	Healdswood Rec. BMX/ scooter track	Y	£108,500	S106				1		
23	Wharf Green phase 2	N	£0	ТВС	1					
24	Stone welcome sign - Stoneyford Road	N	£0	ТВС	1					
25	Sudbury Drive play area refurbishment and adoption	Y	£38,630	Developer Contributi on	1					
	Ashfield Wide									
1	Trees for Ashfield – Ashfield wide	Y	£35,000	S106	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Total subject to receipt of funds		£1,013,953							

5.1 Capital Programme – Public Open Space Income

The table below sets out income received to be included on the Capital Programme.

The income has been received from:

- 1. Grant Applications and Social Value Contributions towards tree planting
- 2. Section 106 developer contributions

Income Source	Amount (£)	Budget	Funding Type
Trees for Cities (TfC)	£ 3,750.00	C00258010	Grant
J . Tomlinson	£ 2,000.00	C00258010	Social Value Contribution
EMG Homes	£ 4,000.00	C00258010	Social Value Contribution
Kingsway Park Management Plan	£191,245.30	D00230	S106 developer contribution (V/2018/0783)

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, Towns Fund and Levelling Up programmes

Cleaner and Greener

Parks and Open Spaces

1. To ensure delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and continue to improve parks and green spaces with a rolling programme of investment.

Legal:

The Legal Team and Director of Legal and Governance are actively supporting and advising in relation to all funding programmes.

Where required specialist external legal advice is being obtained to advise on the funding programmes to ensure all risks to the Council are fully considered. [RLD 02/02/2023]

Finance:

Following the approval of Full Council as recommended by Cabinet the public open space (Area schemes) will be amended in the Capital Programme for the values and funding as outlined in section 5.1 of this report. [PH 01/02/2023].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	No implications
General Fund – Capital Programme	As set out above
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	No implications
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	No implications

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Grant agreements and partner delivery arrangements	Risk is mitigated by the due diligence work undertaken as part of the sign off process, internal and external legal advice.
Resourcing and delivery risks associated with multiple project/programme delivery	Corporate Risk identified. Appointment and engagement of staff and consultants to support the programmes where necessary. Project Management for each programme.

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications contained in the report in relation to the funding. However, the projects relating to the funding may have a HR implication which would be identified in subsequent reports.

Environmental/Sustainability:

Environmental and Sustainability issues are considered as a priority for all schemes being funded through the funding sources detailed within this report.

Equalities:

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

Other Implications:

No implications

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

None

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