



Officer Decision Record – Key Decision

Key decisions taken by an officer are subject to the 5 day call in period from circulation to Members, and therefore the decision will be released for implementation following the call-in period and no call in being received

1. Cabinet date and copy resolution this key decision relates to

This decision is in accordance with the delegation (see below) established in relation to adoption of the Creativity Strategy through Cabinet approval of 16 March 2022 (Cabinet Decision Notice DN.141).

The decision notice resolved that authority is delegated to the Executive Director Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Housing and Tourism to publish, promote and implement such strategy.

Due to a change in the scheme of delegation, the responsibility for decision making for the Creativity Strategy with effect from 21 October 2022 is the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure as constitutionally permitted.

As a result of changes to the remit of Portfolio Holders, the responsibility for decision making for the Creativity Strategy with effect from 25 May 2023 is the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and Visitor Economy as constitutionally permitted.

2. Subject and details of the matter (to include reasons for the decision)

North East Lincolnshire is an Area of Focus for National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and a Priority Place for Arts Council England (ACE).

The Creativity Strategy adopted in March 2022 set out the Council's vision for creativity across the Borough. In May 2022, a Creativity Board was established to

develop an action plan and to deliver the objectives of the Strategy. The action plan includes a strand of bringing more cultural investment into the borough to enable creative activity to be delivered.

ACE's Place Partnership programme is a strategic place-based intervention that is intended to make a long-term difference to the cultural and/or creative life of the local community in partnership with others.

The Creativity Board agreed that an application for a Place Partnership grant would enable delivery of the Creativity Strategy themes of Creativity for All, Creative Economy and Creative Working which align with ACE's areas of focus (Cultural Communities and Creative People). Additionally, it was felt that the Council should be the lead organisation in the Place Partnership bid given the recent successful delivery of the Grimsby Creates programme and prominent position within the local cultural sector.

Over the next 3 years, with the Place Partnership grant, we will deliver ambitious creative activity across NEL capturing our renewed confidence, celebrating our history and green future. Cementing foundations of Grimsby Creates, we will focus on participation and engagement, strengthening partnerships and delivering NEL & ACE's aims as a Priority Place.

3. Decision being taken

The decision required for the Creativity Strategy is/are:

1. To approve the proposal for the Council to act as accountable body for the Place Partnership grant award and accept funding from Arts Council England with a total value of £450,000 over the next 3 years.
2. To authorise the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and Visitor Economy to:
 - Negotiate and finalise appropriate agreements between the Council and Arts Council England and partnership/service level agreements with delivery partners in relation to the Place Partnership programme.
 - Commence procurement exercises for projects to be delivered through the Place Partnership programme and make appropriate awards.

- Finalise project appraisal, approval, contractual terms and claims/monitoring processes.

3. Authorises the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and Visitor Economy to ensure that all necessary ancillary actions are completed.

4. Authorises the Assistant Director Law and Governance to execute all documents in connection with the above.

4. Is it an Urgent Decision? If yes, specify the reasons for urgency. Urgent decisions will require sign off by the relevant scrutiny chair(s) as not subject to call in.

No.

5. Anticipated outcome(s)/benefits

Approval of these activities will contribute to the delivery of the Place Partnership programme as specified in the funding agreement with the Arts Council England.

Benefits and impacts will be realised within North East Lincolnshire as follows:

- North East Lincolnshire's residents are proud of their shared heritage, look forward and have the opportunity to participate and enjoy creativity and culture.
- North East Lincolnshire has a strong network of ambitious creative organisations and individuals who have places to develop and showcase their work and are connected locally, nationally and internationally.
- North East Lincolnshire's vibrant culture contributes to the social and economic prosperity of Lincolnshire.
- North East Lincolnshire's creative individuals and organisations have well-established funding sources from private and public investors.

6. Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision (this should be similar to original cabinet decision)

Do not accept the grant award – the Council would not be following the decision notice of the Cabinet meeting of 16 March 2022 in relation to the Creativity Strategy.

Additionally, this would have a negative impact and limit the Council's ability to support and deliver a range of creative projects.

7. Background documents considered (web links to be included and copies of documents provided for publishing)

The Creativity Strategy was approved by Cabinet on 16 March 2022:

[Cabinet – Special | Democracy \(nelincs.gov.uk\)](#)

The Creativity Strategy is available here:

[4.-Creativity-Strategy-1.pdf \(nelincs.gov.uk\)](#)

8. Does the taking of the decision include consideration of Exempt information? If yes, specify the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A and the reasons

No.

9. Details of any conflict of interest declared by any Cabinet Member who was consulted by the officer which relates to the decision (in respect of any declared conflict of interest, please provide a note of dispensation granted by the Council's Chief Executive)

None.

10. Monitoring Officer Comments (Monitoring Officer or nominee)

The decision is consistent with the will of Cabinet to publish, promote and implement the Council's Creativity Strategy, noting the constitutional changes to the officer and PfH remits. The decision will enable the programme to be delivered as outlined in the body of the report. Grant funding conditions need to be closely monitored considering the nature and scale of the projects. Legal colleagues will continue to support as appropriate.

11. Section 151 Officer Comments (Deputy S151 Officer or nominee)

The receipt of Arts Council England revenue grant funding will aid the Council to deliver creative activity across the borough which is in line with the objectives of the Council's Creativity Strategy.

12. Human Resource Comments (Head of People and Culture or nominee)

There are no direct HR implications arising from the contents of this report.

13. Risk Assessment (in accordance with the Report Writing Guide)

This is a substantial revenue project for NELC and partners to deliver creative activity across the borough. There are significant opportunities to develop existing and new creative partnerships, empower and support local creative entrepreneurs and provide opportunities for creative careers to be developed in our borough.

The recent Grimsby Creates programme has provided stability for both the Council and local creative sector by carefully managing risks that previously had the potential to jeopardise arts and culture programme delivery. The activities in the bid will further contribute to minimising these risks by the selected delivery partners and oversight from the Creativity Board on a quarterly basis.

A detailed project plan is in place to ensure key milestones are met and the programme team are working closely with Arts Council England to ensure successful delivery of this grant funded programme and minimise any risk of grant clawback.

14. Has the Cabinet Tracker been updated with details of this decision?

Yes

15. Decision Maker(s):

Name: Carolina Borgstrom

Title: Director of Economy,
Environment and Infrastructure

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 10th July 2023

16. Consultation carried out with Portfolio Holder(s):

Name: Cllr H Dawkins

Title: Portfolio Holder for Culture,
Heritage and Visitor Economy

Dated: 6th July 2023

Signed: REDACTED

**17. If the decision is urgent then
consultation should be carried out
with the relevant Scrutiny
Chair/Mayor/Deputy Mayor**

Name:

Title:

Signed:

Dated:

Key Decisions are defined in the Constitution as:

A decision (whether taken collectively or individually by members) which is likely:

- (i) to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.

A decision will be considered financially significant if:

- (i) in the case of revenue expenditure, it results in the incurring of expenditure or making savings of £350,000 or greater;
- (ii) in the case of capital expenditure, the capital expenditure/savings are in excess of £350,000 or 20% of the total project cost, whichever is the greater

In determining whether a decision is significant in terms of its effect on an area comprising two or more wards, consideration shall be given to:

- (i) the number of residents/service users that will be affected in the wards concerned;
- (ii) the likely views of those affected (i.e. is the decision likely to result in substantial public interest)
- (iii) whether the decision may incur a significant social, economic or environmental risk.