



Operational Officer Decision Record

Where the decision has a financial value of between £100k - £350k and does not have a **significant** impact on two or more wards

1. Subject and details of the matter (to include reasons for the decision and detail of any previous cabinet decision)

Approval is sought to accept an additional £185,000 of funding for the Kasbah Partnership Schemes in Conservation Areas (PSiCA) grant scheme from Historic England (HE). HE have agreed to award a grant for £150,000 to Associated British Ports (ABP) for 33.13% of the total cost of urgent repair works to an at-risk building on the Kasbah Conservation Area (Building 74), up to a maximum of £150,000. They would like this to be offered to ABP via the existing PSiCA grant scheme, for which NELC is the accountable body. Under the terms of the PSiCA, the grant would be claimed in arrears by ABP at the intervention rate of 33.13%, ensuring that the grant funding is spread across the entire project rather than being used for one particular element. No capital contribution is required from NELC. HE have also made available an additional £35,000 for other PSiCA projects, with no match required from NELC.

At its meeting of 10th April 2019 (FPFP 04/19/06), Cabinet delegated authority to the Director of Economy and Growth* in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Skills, Assets and Housing* to:

- b) Finalise the project appraisal, approval, and claims processes for the award of PSiCA grants to third party property owners.

c) Finalise appropriate legal agreements between the Council and third-party property owners awarded grants through the PSiCA programme, subject to assurance on State Aid compliance, and including the arrangements and contractual terms for the payment of grant monies to such recipients in accordance with the grant conditions and the monitoring of grants thereafter.

* As a result of changes to the scheme of delegation since April 2019, the responsibility of decision making for the PSiCA scheme is: the Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure; the Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Net Zero, Skills and Housing, and as constitutionally permitted.

2. Decision being taken

For the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Net Zero, Skills and Housing to accept an additional contribution of £185,000 from Historic England into the Kasbah PSiCA scheme and thereafter deal with all matters reasonably arising.

3. Anticipated outcome(s)/benefits

For Building 74, the ABP Humber team have advised that a grant through the PSiCA scheme will enable them to secure additional capital funds from their National Board for the rest of the refurbishment works to this building.

A longstanding vacant and at-risk building in this nationally significant conservation area will be stabilised and repaired.

The successful delivery of this project will encourage the ABP National Board to further invest in the Kasbah's regeneration.

ABP undertaking works on their own buildings will send a positive message to current tenants, as well as to those considering moving their business into a neighbouring building.

Two further projects on the Kasbah can be fully supported with this additional funding.

4. Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision

We could choose not to offer the grant to ABP. This has been rejected as the grant award has already been agreed by Historic England, and has been discussed at length by the Council, Historic England, and ABP, at regular Kasbah partnership meetings. In addition, if stabilisation work does not progress in haste, there is potential for further collapse of the brickwork on the building's south East corner.

The grant could be awarded to ABP directly by Historic England. However, the project does not meet the funding criteria of any of their grant schemes, so would not be approved by their national grants panel.

The authority could take enforcement action rather than offer grant funding. This has been rejected as it could jeopardise the future of the ABP / HE / NELC partnership, and could impact other projects on the Humber ports which NELC and ABP are working closely together on.

The authority could request that the urgent stabilisation works are undertaken by ABP, with grant funding awarded instead for the betterment of the building following this. This has been rejected as the Historic England funding being made available must be spent by March 2024, and the proposed works are all eligible under the terms of the PSiCA scheme.

Other grant applicants could be asked to fund works themselves rather than be supported by additional funding from Historic England. This has been rejected as although applicants could do this, HE has funding which needs to be spent by the end of March 2023, and these projects would enable them to do this.

5. Background documents considered (web link to be included or copies of documents for publishing)

Cabinet Decision Notice, 12th April 2019, and Cabinet Report (FP 04/19/06)

Kasbah PSiCA Process ODR, 7th August 2020

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

No

7. 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)

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8. Monitoring Officer Comments (Monitoring Officer or nominee)

The above is consistent with the will of Cabinet and the delegations already made.

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

The capital scheme budget will be increased by £185k to reflect the allocation of additional external grant funding.

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

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

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

A detailed risk assessment is maintained for the PSiCA scheme. The risks are monitored within the PSiCA project team and are reported on a monthly basis to the Grimsby Town Centre Improvement Programme Board. There are currently no red risks for the scheme.

There is no residual risk to the Council if the cost of repairs to Building 74, or any other PSiCA-funded projects exceed the anticipated budget. Under the terms of the grant contract any additional costs must be borne by the applicant. ABP are aware that the grant offer will be for a maximum of £150,000, and the grant agreement terms and condition make it clear that no further funds will be available should project costs increase.

12. If the decision links to a previous one taken by Cabinet, has the Cabinet Tracker been updated?

The tracker will be updated once this ODR has been signed off.

Name: Carolina Borgstrom

Title: Director of Economy,
Environment & Infrastructure

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 09/10/2023

13. Decision Maker(s):

**14. Consultation carried out with
Portfolio Holder(s):**

Name: Councillor P Jackson

Title: Leader and Portfolio Holder for
Economy, Net Zero, Skills and
Housing

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 9th October 2023