

### **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)

This decision is to accept £250,000 funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for Heritage Place Scoping. North East Lincolnshire is a Heritage Place for NLHF and our ambition is to build the capacity and shared aspiration of North East Lincolnshire to benefit from a range of heritage projects throughout the lifetime of the Heritage 2033 strategy. This is in accordance with North East Lincolnshire Creativity Strategy adopted through Cabinet approval of 16 March 2022 (Cabinet Decision Notice DN.141)

The grant of £250,000 will enable a project that will see investment in activities to build the foundations for Heritage Place in NEL by:

- Investing in capacity in North East Lincolnshire Council to act as a catalyst, convener and enabler with communities and partners, bringing people together.
- Providing seedcorn grants to support:
- Exploring heritage that is locally important
- Enabling communities to engage with local heritage and the positive impact that it can have on their lives

- Exploring the potential of developing large scale projects in a supportive environment
- Developing a logic model to provide the strategic direction, outcomes and impacts for North East Lincolnshire as a Heritage Place, this will be subject to an open procurement process.
- Broadening the diversity of those expressing an interest in heritage and the type of heritage being preserved, saved and celebrated.

#### 2. Decision being taken

That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and the Visitor Economy:

Accepts Heritage Place scoping funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund with a total value of £250,000 from July 2024 to March 2027.

Thereafter implements such workstreams so as to achieve the anticipated outcomes of the funding initiative.

To conduct a procurement exercise for a logic model and thereafter award and implement.

#### 3. Anticipated outcome(s)/benefits

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

- Investing in capacity in North East Lincolnshire Council to act as a catalyst, convener and enabler with communities and partners, bringing people together and providing North East Lincolnshire with a strong network of ambitious heritage organisations and individuals who have places to develop and showcase their work.
- North East Lincolnshire's vibrant culture contributes to the social and economic prosperity of Lincolnshire via seedcorn grants to community organisations to explore heritage, enable community engagement with heritage and the positive impact this has on lives and explore the potential to develop large scale projects.

- North East Lincolnshire's creative and heritage individuals and organisations have well-established funding sources from public investors. Those expressing an interest in heritage and the type of heritage being preserved, saved and celebrated are broadened in diversity.
- North East Lincolnshire's strategic direction, outcomes and impacts as a heritage place are developed by a logic model.

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

The Council has considered the alternative to not accept the grant award. However, 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 heritage projects. This would compromise our position as a Heritage Place with NLHF and cease £250,000 investment into North East Lincolnshire.

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

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

<u>Cabinet – Special | Democracy (nelincs.gov.uk)</u>

The Creativity Strategy is available here:

- 4.-Creativity-Strategy-1.pdf (nelincs.gov.uk)
- 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)

None

#### 8. Monitoring Officer Comments (Monitoring Officer or nominee)

The terms of funding will be captured in a Funding Agreement and Legal Services colleagues are able to support to ensure that the Council's interests are protected.

The procurement exercise for the logic model will be conducted so as to comply with the Council's policy and legal obligations, specifically in compliance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and supported by relevant officers. Legal Services will support the completion of the contractual documentation on award.

Officers should note that an award constitutes a further decision and will be subject to completion of an Officer Decision Record. Where key decision criteria are met such Officer Decision Record will be subject to call in. Award and implementation timelines should accommodate this.

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

Acceptance of National Lottery Heritage Fund Heritage Place scoping revenue grant funding, totalling £250,000 over the next 2.5 years, will facilitate the delivery of creative and heritage activity across the borough in line with the Council's Creativity Strategy. There is no direct impact on existing revenue and capital budgets.

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

A new member of NELC staff will be recruited on a fixed-term basis (until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026). The primary aim of the role will be to:

- Develop a pipeline of projects through community engagement
- Support the development of organisations, including NELC to develop high quality applications to the point of submission.
- Develop a 10-year strategic plan for heritage projects in connection with all relevant stakeholders and enable steps to take place to realise long tern ambitions, e.g. community participation projects to help build skills and awareness.
- To curate supporting activities which activate the logic model.

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

This is a revenue project for NELC and partners to deliver heritage activity across the borough. The recent Heritage Starter Fund programme, establishment of a Heritage Network and further National Lottery Heritage revenue funding contributing to the Create North East Lincolnshire programme has provided stability for both the Council and local heritage sector by carefully managing risks that previously had the potential to jeopardise heritage project delivery across the Borough. 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 Heritage Fund to ensure successful delivery of this grant funded programme and minimise any risk of grant clawback.

# 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 approved.

**13. Decision Maker(s):** Name: Carolina Borgstrom

Title: Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 17th July 2024

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

Name: Councillor Hayden Dawkins

Title: Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and Visitor Economy

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024