



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

On 15th January 2025 Cabinet approved to apply to the Sport England Place Expansion Fund to draw in grant funding to develop the place expansion programme within priority wards of North East Lincolnshire (NEL). Cabinet approved and actioned

1. Supports and agrees to accept the Sport England grant funding grant of £401,159 for the development of place expansion in North East Lincolnshire.
2. Authorises the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage, and the Visitor Economy to accept the funding and thereafter implement the proposed initiatives and to take all ancillary actions reasonably arising.
3. Authorises the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) to execute and complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.

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

Following the implementation of the development phase of place expansion, this decision concerns the next stage for the Council to accept receipt of an additional £1,169,044 of revenue funding that has been secured after successful application to Sport England (the full award phase). The decision is required to enable the delivery

of Sport England Place Expansion Full Award Phase to deliver the fourteen key focuses identified in the approved NEL Place Expansion delivery plan (see Appendix 1 Delivery Plan). The funding will allow delivery to take place up until the end of March 2028.

3. Decision being taken

That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Tourism and Culture accepts the additional Sport England Place Expansion grant funding of £1,169,044 and approves progression of the associated delivery plan.

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

Accepting Sport England Place Expansion Funding will strengthen service delivery by increasing the Leisure Services capacity to target investment in programmes and partnerships identified in the delivery plan which will support initiatives to increase physical activity, improve health outcomes and support reduce health inequalities across North East Lincolnshire.

Residents will benefit from greater access to inclusive opportunities to be active, supporting healthier lifestyles, improved wellbeing and strong community connections.

The funding is entirely grant funded from Sport England thus reducing any pressure on council resources and creating future opportunities to leverage additional funding from other resources dependant on the successful delivery of this programme.

Incorporating the wider picture of supporting the Council priorities, the funding will support prevention, tackle health inequalities, support implement marmot principles across the borough, strengthen communities by helping residents lead healthier lifestyles, and be more active.

The delivery of this initiative will support in the delivery of the councils Sport and Physical Activity Strategy, Joint Health and Well Being Strategy and support the implementation of North East Lincolnshire's Marmot Place Programme.

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

There is the alternative option to do nothing and not accept the grant funding, however this may have a negative impact on wider health and wellbeing outcomes and limit the Council's ability to invest in sport and physical activity across North East Lincolnshire. It would also undermine the extensive work that has been put to developing a deeper relationship with Sport England.

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

[5.-Sport-England-Funding-Cabinet-Report.pdf](#)

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)

No conflicts were declared.

10. Monitoring Officer Comments (Monitoring Officer or nominee)

The decision is consistent with the authority granted by Cabinet. The decision maker should ensure that the terms of the grant offer are reviewed and complied with, that any onward funding or delivery arrangements with partners are appropriately documented, and that all necessary legal documentation is completed in accordance with the Council's Contract and Financial Procedure Rules.

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

Acceptance of the Sport England revenue grant funding will support the delivery of the NEL Place Expansion delivery plan through to March 2028. As the planned activity is fully externally funded, there should be no pressure on the Council's existing revenue budgets, subject to compliance with grant conditions, effective financial monitoring, and management of any onward funding within the grant allocation. Any staffing commitments that are to be funded from the grant should be managed with appropriate HR advice, recognising the potential risk for future redundancy costs to arise.

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

It is understood that two fixed term contracts are funded through the Sport England Place Expansion funding and the service intends to extend those contracts to March 2028. This may not be appropriate depending on their continuous service and case-specific advice should be sought from Partnering as to the most appropriate way to manage their employment if this funding is accepted. The Council will be liable for payment of redundancy payments to these employees in the event that the funding ceases or is withdrawn.

13. Risk Assessment (in accordance with the Report Writing Guide The following headline risks have been identified with appropriate mitigation, and these include:

The following headline risks have been identified with appropriate mitigation, and these include:

- Misuse of funds by delivery partners will be mitigated through funding agreements which will evidence proof of spend and delivery of agreed KPI's and payment milestones.
- Due diligence checks to ensure suitable arrangements in place including safeguarding procedures and financial monitoring, this will reduce the risk of any negative impact on the council from unsuitable partner delivery.
- Service monitoring arrangements in place to review delivery of funding each quarter and ensure programme is on track.

- Risk log and programme tracker is kept up to date and is monitored to ensure that associated grant conditions and core outcomes are being met to reduce risk of grant funding clawback and reputational risk of non-delivery.

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

Yes updated.

15. Decision Maker(s):

Name: Carolina Borgstrom

Title: Director of Economy,
Environment and Infrastructure

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 10/09/2026

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

Name: Councillor Bob Callison

Title: Portfolio Holder for Environment,
Tourism and Culture

Signed: REDACTED

Dated: 14th September 2026

**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.