



Portfolio Holder Decisions

Development of the community hub at the former Fleetwood Hospital site, Development of a Feel Good Factory at Thornton Leisure Centre, Proposed changes to Fees and Charges for the treatment of Public

1. **UK Shared Prosperity Fund - Development of the community hub at the former Fleetwood Hospital site** (Pages 3 - 10)
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2. **UK Shared Prosperity Fund - Development of a Feel Good Factory at Thornton Leisure Centre** (Pages 11 - 16)
Report of the Director of Communities.
3. **Proposed changes to Fees and Charges for the treatment of Public Health Pests** (Pages 17 - 22)
Report of the Director of Environment.

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Portfolio Holder Report

The portfolio holder will make a decision on this item after seven days have elapsed (including the date of publication).

Report of:	Portfolio Holder	Date of publication
Marianne Hesketh, Director of Communities	Councillor Lesley McKay, Resources Portfolio Holder	4 April 2024

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) – Development of the community hub at the former Fleetwood Hospital site

Key decision: Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval to grant £350,000 of UKSPF to Fleetwood Trust, to fund capital works towards the repurpose and refit of ground floor space, to create a community hub, at the Former Fleetwood Hospital site, North Albert Street, Fleetwood.

2. Council priorities

- 2.1 Secure external funding and investment to make improvements to places across the borough.
- 2.2 Provide support to those who need it, including our most vulnerable and financially disadvantaged residents and our ageing population.
- 2.3 Improve the quality of life for individuals by tackling loneliness and isolation.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That £350,000 is granted to Fleetwood Trust for capital works towards the redevelopment of ground floor space, which will be used as a community hub facility.
- 3.2 That the capital programme for the financial year 2024/25 be updated to reflect the spend profile of £350,000 on this project.

3.3 To note that Fleetwood Trust are intending to use their existing contractor, through a variation of their current contract of works, which will be compliant with the UKSPF procurement requirements and ensure the project is deliverable by 31 March 2025.

4. Background

4.1 The UKSPF is a central pillar of the UK government's Levelling Up agenda providing £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment by March 2025. Wyre's allocation being £3,949,132 (which includes £20,000 for preparing the Investment Plan).

4.2 The Investment Plan of projects for Wyre, was selected via a project selection group from a shortlist compiled from proposals returned via three routes, namely:

- Town Centre Partnership Boards (established as part of the council's Town Centre Strategy Fund programme) nominating projects from priorities as set out in Town Centre Regeneration Frameworks.
- A long-list of countywide business, people and skills support projects supplied via Lancashire County Council.
- A long-list of borough-wide projects which picked up priorities that were outside the remit of the Regeneration Frameworks.

4.3 Projects were selected based on the strength of their strategic fit in addressing key local needs and providing outputs which will support the council's Town Centre Recovery Projects' objectives.

4.4 Fleetwood Trust's redevelopment of the former Hospital ground floor space, to create a community hub (the hub), is one of the proposed Wyre Investment Plan projects. The mission is identified in the [Fleetwood Regeneration Framework](#) and is one of the identified projects (see 4. Community & Residential, project No. 1: Former Fleetwood Hospital Community Hub).

4.5 The hub building is owned by Fleetwood Trust, and is currently tenanted by NHS Outpatients, Regenda Housing, The Pantry (food bank), Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Volunteer Centre (current Youth Hub service), Blackpool and the Fylde College, MacMillan Cancer, Northwest Ambulance Service and Counselling in the Community.

4.6 The Trust has recently been successful in securing Youth Investment Fund monies, totalling £1.07 million, to repurpose part of the ground floor to create a youth hub. This is in progress and will be adjacent to the proposed UKSPF project. Once the new Youth Hub development is completed, the Coastal Adolescent and Mental Health Service (CAMHS) will be located there.

4.7 The concept for the hub was shaped by consultation with local communities and organisations. It will host a range of facilities, comprising a community teaching kitchen providing a food and nutritional tutorial space to support essential skills for the community to learn how to prepare

and cook meals, accessible toilets, a community launderette scheme and an outdoor growing garden and seating area. The hub will incorporate a flexi-use studio where residents can attend group meetings, learn new skills, access a range of services, engage in health and well-being activities and it will provide a quiet space for reflection and comfort. The Trust also intends to open up a community café and seating/breakout space.

- 4.8** The community hub space will benefit the building's service users primarily but will be open to everyone. The Trust's intention is to offer this space for free or at low cost to residents and community and voluntary sector users. This is made possible by the other areas of the building being self-sustaining through rental income.
- 4.9** The Trust are working with Mason Gillibrand Architects and Shelby Group quantity surveyors to agree the design and costings for the community hub development.
- 4.10** The Trust have recently secured a £250,000 grant from Garfield Weston which will fund the not-for-profit community café, this is separate to the UKSPF funded teaching kitchen. The Trust are covering other costs, for example professional design, project management, planning and building regulations fees and these are estimated at £60,000.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The estimated value for the completion of the community hub is £600,000, which includes a 2% inflation and 7.5% contingency allowance. It is proposed that the UKSPF grant of £350,000 would be ring-fenced for the sole purpose of delivering the community teaching kitchen, community launderette, community garden, flexi-use studio and storage and the toilets which include an accessible toilet as marked out in orange in Appendix 1. This grant will be reflected in the Capital Programme for 2024/25.
- 5.2** Planning permission was granted on 16 February 2021, for the change of use of part of the ground floor from Use Class C2 'Residential Institution' to a multi-use purpose facility for community use (Sui Generis), which is still active. Further to the above, variation of conditions have been granted in relation to the operating hours which are currently set at 08:00 – 21:00 hours, and for the NWAS service specifically, the ability to operate a 24 hour first responder service.
- 5.3** The Trust have confirmed there are no asbestos or reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) implications to the project.
- 5.4** The Trust have recently followed robust procurement procedures to satisfy the requirements of Government's Department for Culture, Media and Sport for the Youth Investment Fund. It is therefore noted that a variation of contract is to be made by the Trust to enable the project to be delivered in the UKSPF programme timescale and to deliver value for money. If this

variation was not accepted costs may inflate and deliverability in the UKSPF timeframe would be difficult.

6. Alternative options considered and rejected.

- 6.1** Not to award the grant to this project. This is rejected as the project is the culmination of local consultation and priorities which are reflected and aligned with Wyre’s Council Plan and Future Fleetwood’s Regeneration Framework. The project was shortlisted and included in Wyre’s UKSPF Investment Plan in 2022 and has been approved by government, following consultation with and by the Future Fleetwood Partnership, local partners and community. The UKSPF Investment Plan can be amended, however redirecting large amounts of capital funding from an identified priority could bring reputational damage, as well as a potential claw-back of funds if they cannot be reallocated to other capital projects that can deliver by March 2025.
- 6.2** If the fund were withdrawn, Fleetwood Trust would struggle to secure an alternative non-repayable source of funding to complete the community hub, in conjunction with the award they have currently secured from Garfield Weston for the café section.
- 6.3** We could offer a smaller amount. An amount below £315,000 was considered as part of wider discussions around whether or not the grant would constitute a subsidy under the new UK subsidy control regime. However, following a thorough review, the grant was deemed not to meet the subsidy criteria and so offering a lower amount was no longer a consideration. In addition, the Trust have already reengineered costs, and reducing this further is likely to jeopardise the range of intended benefits and impact of the project and is not therefore advised.

7. Delegated functions

- 7.1** The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive functions delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council’s constitution): “To determine payment of grants to outside bodies within allocated budgets”.

Financial, Legal and Climate Change implications	
Finance	The UKSPF capital spend profile of £350,000 will be updated in the 2024/25 Capital Programme. The funding will be ring-fenced for works relating to the area highlighted in orange on the Ground Floor Masterplan (Appendix 1). Areas outside the orange shading will be prioritised and met by external funding; the £250,000 Garfield Weston grant is secured for the kitchen area.

Legal	<p>An assessment has been carried out in accordance with the Subsidy Control Act 2022 and based on the information presented by the Trust, the council concludes that the grant does not constitute a subsidy under the Subsidy Control Act 2022. This will continue to be monitored for 3 years from the date of awarding the grant and if circumstances change the necessary actions will be taken to comply with the new subsidy regime.</p> <p>The council will enter into a grant agreement developed for UKSPF projects valued above £50,000 and will include required special conditions as appropriate.</p>
Climate Change	<p>The project will seek to deliver a positive carbon impact through the Trust's dedication towards repurposing and retrofitting the derelict area of the ground floor. This intends to significantly reduce climate cost and increase the sustainability of the building through reuse of materials and solar panel energy, already installed and of considerable surface area. The Trust will be using local materials and supplies including labour market for the fit out. Negatively there will be an expected increase in visitor travel to the site, however the Trust are encouraging active travel with provision of bicycle stands. As they are looking to support more financially disadvantaged residents, it is anticipated that much of the travel to and from the venue will be on foot, bike or use of public transport. Waste will increase as a result of increased use and recycling will support the reduction of landfill. Whilst usage and waste will increase, it is considered positive that more people will spend long periods of time in one space, rather than in individual spaces utilising renewable energy sources. This also applies to co-location of services.</p>

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

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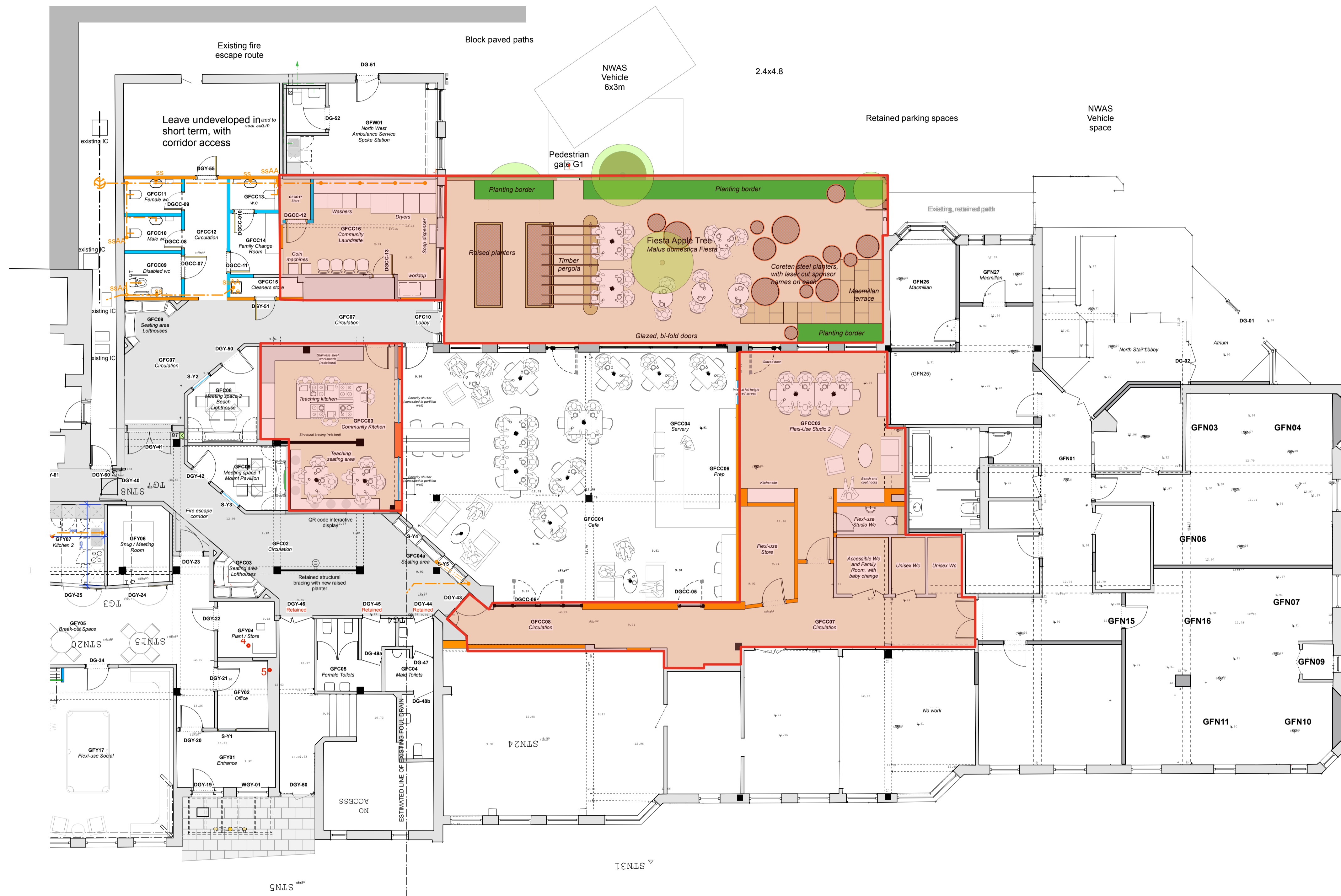
List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
20/01082/FUL	16 Feb 2021	20/01082/FUL Change of use of part of the ground floor from Use Class C2 'Residential Institution' to a multi-purpose facility for community use (Sui Generis), with a cafe, teaching kitchen, co-working space, multi-purpose studios, meeting rooms and offices. Alterations to window/door openings, and carparking layout and landscaping and replacement bin store Fleetwood Trust At Former Fleetwood Hospital Pharos Street Fleetwood Lancashire FY7 6BE (wyre.gov.uk)

List of appendices

Appendix 1: Ground Floor Masterplan, which contains the Community Hub. The UKSPF grant would only apply to the areas shaded in orange.

Appendix 1 - Community Hub Ground Floor Masterplan

It is proposed that the UKSPF would fund the areas shaded in orange.



1 COMMUNITY KITCHEN AND ASSOCIATED ROOMS
SCALE 1:100

Rev.	Initial	Date	Note
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WORK IN PROGRESS

project TheHUB Fleetwood

drawing title AND ASSOCIATED ROOMS

dwg. no.	6355/ra/04	date	Jan-24	rev
scale	1:100	@ A1L	drawn by SG	checked by LD

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Drawings are based on survey data and may not accurately represent what is physically present. Do not scale from the drawing. All dimensions are to be verified on site before proceeding with work. All dimensions are in millimetres unless stated otherwise. Mason Gillibrand Architects are to be notified in writing of any discrepancies immediately.
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Portfolio Holder Report

The portfolio holder will make a decision on this item after seven days have elapsed (including the date of publication).

Report of:	Portfolio Holder	Date of publication
Marianne Hesketh, Director of Communities	Councillor Lesley McKay, Resources Portfolio Holder and Councillor Lynne Bowen, Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	4 April 2024

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) – Development of a Feel Good Factory at Thornton Leisure Centre

Key decision: Yes

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To seek approvals to facilitate the purchase and installation of a new Feel Good Factory gym facility at Thornton Leisure Centre together with associated running costs for the first year. Costs of £185,622 to be funded from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), with the capital programme for 2024/25 to be updated to reflect that this includes spend of £117,543.

2. Council priorities

2.1 Provide opportunities for people to lead healthy and active lifestyles.

2.2 Improve our leisure facilities ensuring they meet the needs of our residents and visitors.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That approval is given to purchase and install specialist, power assisted Feel Good Factory exercise equipment at Thornton Leisure Centre at a cost of £106,857 (plus 10% contingency of £10,686). The total cost is £117,543 and this is to be reflected in the capital programme for 2024/25, funded by an allocation from UKSPF.

3.2 That approval is given to fund staffing, marketing and service contract costs of £61,890 (plus contingency of £6,189). The total cost is £68,079 to support the first 12 months of the operation of the Feel Good Factory funded by an allocation from the revenue funding from UKSPF.

3.3 That approval is given by the Resources Portfolio Holder to allow the procurement under exemptions to contract procedures, contained within the Financial Regulations and Financial Procedure Rules on the grounds that: “the goods, works or services are of a specialised nature carried out by only one or a limited number of firms with no reasonably satisfactory alternatives available.”

4. Background

4.1 Wyre has an ageing population profile. 28% of residents are aged 65+ (this is already the highest proportion in Lancashire and this number is expected to rise to around 36% by 2043).

4.2 There are higher than average rates of people with a long-term limiting illness in the Borough (26% of residents compared to 18% nationally).

4.3 NHS profiling for Wyre highlights that on 11 of 34 key indicators Wyre is performing significantly worse than the England average. The poor performing indicators include: life expectancy for both males and females; under 75's mortality rate from all causes; mortality rate from cancer and all cardiovascular diseases.

4.4 The higher than average predicted increase in the proportion of older people expected over the next ten years in Wyre is also likely to result in a higher than average rate of increase in the prevalence of diabetes as it is with many other diseases affecting older people (including dementia, circulatory disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, osteoarthritis and cancer).

4.5 A higher percentage of the Wyre population is inactive compared to England and the North West and therefore a lower percentage is considered to be active. 25% of the adult population of Wyre are inactive currently and for those with a disability or long-term health condition this rises to 40%.

4.6 Research gathered to support the development of the Wyre Moving More Strategy from local social prescribing teams and the residents' Moving More survey sets a clear challenge to council services to deliver active environments for those who are not physically active and find the prospect of going to a leisure centre daunting. For these residents a re-orientation of facilities incorporating options such as a Feel Good Factory will be much more attractive and better able to cater for those who are less physically active.

4.7 Loneliness and a lack of social connection are also issues for many of those in the target customer base / resident groups and the opportunity to exercise and tone up in the relaxed and sociable setting of a Feel Good Factory will help address these issues too.

4.8 Across the country, including in Lancashire, a number of local authorities have invested in Feel Good Factory gym studios from well-known fitness provider, Innerva. Innerva are a well-established UK designer and manufacturer of power assisted exercise (PAE) equipment. Gyms installed with such equipment have been evidenced to bring hundreds of new members to facilities. These facilities target the over 55s (the active ageing market), people living with disabilities, people with poor mobility or long-term health conditions and indeed anyone who feels intimidated by a traditional 'gym' environment and wants to try a different and fun way to exercise.

4.9 In particular, Feel Good Factories are working successfully in Blackpool, Pendle and Lancaster. Contact has been made with these areas for research purposes. Active Blackpool has had Feel Good Factories in place at two of its leisure centres now for over eight years and they have 715 members currently. The Blackpool facility is a useful local example of provision of a combination of appropriate facilities (dedicated health and fitness space), programming (gentle exercise, injury rehabilitation, weight loss classes) and incentives (leisure card, digital app, health referrals) to deliver physical activity interventions for residents that are either presently inactive or returning to physical activity. They report that the facilities are very well used and popular with members.

4.10 A Feel Good Factory consists of a range of power assisted gym equipment that provides a 'helping hand' in a low impact, full-body workout circuit. The equipment is electronically controlled and facilitates safe and enjoyable exercise, ideal for the target audience. Each machine works a variety of muscle groups. As all equipment is used in a seated or recumbent position there is reduced stress on the body and lower impact on joints. The equipment is safe for all age groups and abilities as users do not need to provide the motive force to overcome inertia. There are no weight stacks to control, just safe and effective power assisted technology.

4.11 The installation of a Feel Good Factory at Thornton will provide an opportunity for us to introduce a new, innovative exercise offer for older people, for people with disabilities and those with long term conditions to become more active. If it is successful we could then introduce other schemes at other centres.

4.12 It is anticipated that the scheme will help to reduce the burden that ageing and associated health conditions will place on local services, including upon services in the NHS and Social Care.

4.13 Feel Good Factories work best on the ground floor of a leisure centre. An ideal, and currently under-used, room has been identified at Thornton Leisure Centre. The adjacent café area will also create an ideal social space for participants to meet up before or after their exercise sessions.

Evidence suggests there are around 24,200 potential Feel Good Factory customers within a 3km radius of Thornton Leisure Centre and these

- 4.14** potential users include a high proportion of residents from groups who have more disposable time and income to spend on fitness solutions.

Attracting 340 standalone members (1.4% of the potential users within the 3km radius) to the new Feel Good Factory would generate over

- 4.15** £102,000 revenue per annum, based on a £25 per month price point. This level of income would enable the Feel Good Factory to cover the annual costs of the staffing and promotion of the facility after year one on an ongoing basis. In terms of the income and breaking even point, examples from a Feel Good Factory in another council area indicate that at month nine, salary costs of £4,000 per month would be covered. The studio will hopefully provide new income generation to support the leisure centre from a loyal older and disabled person exercise market (with little or no competition).

Recent success of a similar scheme at The Abbey Leisure Centre in Durham has been highlighted. This facility opened in August 2023 and

- 4.16** they currently have 140+ members and climbing. Durham are so impressed with the success of their 'Move Hub' that they are rolling it out across other sites in their portfolio.

Funding would enable Fylde Coast YMCA to staff the Feel Good Factory to ensure members are assessed, inducted and supported to become

- 4.17** more active in a safe and supervised environment. The staff would be fully experienced and qualified in exercise referral. This would enable the YMCA to create referral pathways for specialist groups from health professionals such as those working in cardiac rehabilitation and stroke recovery. Professionals such as physiotherapists and occupational therapists would also be able to bring clients to the facility on a fee paying basis. It is intended that the predicted income from the Feel Good Factory would enable it to become self-sustaining after year one, with no detrimental impact on the operational subsidy.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** It is proposed that, utilising UKSPF funding, the council will purchase Feel Good Factory gym equipment from Innerva at a capital cost of £117,543. The price quoted includes: room preparation, re-decoration, delivery and installation of equipment, a training package for instructors, a standard warranty and a 5-year service package.
- 5.2** It is proposed that the council will provide a contribution to the YMCA for staffing the Feel Good Factory for the first 12 months of operation to ensure adequate capacity, full training and an inclusive and welcoming environment at the facility. This will be funded from UKSPF funding with an expectation that the service will be self-sustaining after year one.

6. Alternative options considered and rejected

- 6.1** Do nothing – this was discounted as it risks the further decline of health outcomes in Wyre and would miss the opportunity to generate much needed additional income for the leisure centres.
- 6.2** The space could be rented out to a commercial partner for use as office space, this could potentially bring in £6,000 per year but the benefits are outweighed by the Feel Good Factory proposal.
- 6.3** The space available could be used as another spinning bikes studio but this would not bring in a new audience. We are looking to attract older people, people with health conditions and people with disabilities; who do not currently use our centres, to come and use our facilities. We have already invested in new spinning bikes so another studio would add to our current offer for members but wouldn't bring in substantial numbers of new members as spinning is already being invested in and will attract new members as a result of that investment.

Financial, Legal and Climate Change implications			
Finance	The capital and revenue costs are as indicated in the following table:		
	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST</u> £	<u>COST TYPE</u>
	Equipment – year 1 cost only	91,857	Capital
	Room preparation – year 1 cost only	15,000	Capital
	Staffing costs - annual cost	47,000	Revenue
	Marketing and promotion - annual cost	5,000	Revenue
	5 year annual service contract – years 1-5	9,890	Revenue
	Contingency of 10%	16,875	Capital and Revenue
	TOTAL COST	185,622	
	The council will fund via the UKSPF allocation for Thornton Leisure Centre and the capital programme for 2024/25 and the revenue estimates will be updated accordingly.		
Legal	On termination of the leisure agreement, the equipment will be owned by the Council.		
Climate Change	There are no climate change implications arising directly from this report.		

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with an x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	✓
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	✓
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

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List of background papers:		
name of document	Date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

None



Portfolio Holder Report

The portfolio holder will make a decision on this item after seven days have elapsed (including the date of publication).

Report of:	Portfolio Holder	Date of publication
Mark Billington, Director of Environment	Councillor Lynne Bowen, Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Portfolio Holder	4 April 2024

Proposed changes to Fees and Charges for the treatment of Public Health Pests

Key decision: No

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To confirm the proposed fees and charges for the treatment of public health pests, (rats and mice) to align with those of Lancaster City Council.

2. Council priorities

2.1 A well run, forward-thinking council that puts customers first.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the proposed fees and charges set out in Appendix 1 are approved with immediate effect.

3.2 To provide delegated powers to the Director of Environment to enter into a service level agreement with Lancaster City Council as and when required to deliver a Pest Control Service.

4. Background

4.1 Wyre Council's Pest Control service is currently provided by a single officer without suitable cover arrangements in place for periods of absence. This can lead to periods when the council is unable to provide the service and a backlog of appointments. In order to strengthen resilience within the service and provide cover, Lancaster City Council have been approached to provide the service in Wyre under a Service Level Agreement, as and when required.

- 4.2** The council have a number of contracts with private companies to treat pests on their premises, generating a regular income for the pest control service, which helps to offset its costs. In the event that the council is unable to service these contracts, it is likely that the council will lose their custom and the income associated with the provision of the service. Lancaster City Council have indicated that they have some capacity for treating public health pests such as rats and mice in Wyre as and when required. However, they would not have sufficient capacity, to treat pests not considered a public health risk, for example a wasp infestation.
- 4.3** Although an arrangement with Lancaster City Council would not ensure cover for all the pest control services we currently offer, the core public health aspects would be within their capacity and it is deemed to be a suitable interim arrangement.
- 4.4** In the financial year 2023/24 Wyre Council charged £48 per domestic rodent treatment which was due to increase £51 in the financial year 2024/25 following the approval of the Portfolio Holder Fees and Charges report of 14 December 2023 (all fees exclusive of VAT).
- 4.5** In the financial year 2023/24 Lancaster City Council charged £66.17 per domestic rodent treatment which will increase to £72.83 in the financial year 2024/25 (all fees exclusive of VAT). If Wyre's fees and charges are aligned to Lancaster's in this area it represents an increase of over 40%. Previously, Wyre have subsidised the treatment of rodents on public health grounds and this increase will reduce that subsidy and bring us in line with one of our neighbouring councils.
- 4.6** Under these proposals the revised fees and charges for public health pests would remain consistent irrespective of which council undertakes the work. Aligning our costs with Lancaster City Council and allowing them to keep the income they generate from undertaking the treatment, enables Wyre residents to continue to access treatment for public health pests at no additional cost to Wyre Council.
- 4.7** The Original Estimate for 2024/25 forecasts that the pest control service will be subsidised by an estimated £45,220 (including capital charges and support service recharges). This is consistent with the forecast for 2023/24 (Outturn 2022/23 was £57,503). It should be noted that during any periods where Lancaster City Council operate the rodent treatment service, the income will be theirs and we will see a reduction in our income. Overall, the income budget for the whole service in 2024/25 is £37,810 and if a suspension of the in-house service is assumed to be for a period of six months (April to September) then the loss of income is likely to be in the region of £24,330, factoring in seasonality. There will be a limited reduction in costs.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** It is proposed that the council will align its fees and charges for Public Health treatments with those of Lancaster City Council stated in paragraph 4.5. This will allow Lancaster City Council to undertake treatments in the Wyre Council area when required to do so as part of the service level agreement.
- 5.2** The aligning of fees and charges will increase the resilience of the pest control service and its ability to treat public health pests.
- 5.3** The aligning of these fees will allow for increased co-operation between the two services.
- 5.4** The Local Government Act 2003 states that local authorities are under a general duty to secure that, from one financial year to the next, the income from charges for services does not exceed the costs of provision ([section 93\(3\), LGA 2003](#)). A local authority can set the level of charge for each discretionary service as long as the income from charges for each kind of service does not exceed the costs of its provision ([section 93\(5\), LGA 2003](#)). Having considered various options for providing the service when our in-house service is unavailable, utilising Lancaster City Council has been identified as a suitable alternative, and as such is considered compliant with the Local Government Act 2003. The council is still expected to be subsidising the pest control service, as reported in the fees and charges report December 2023 [Agenda for Portfolio Holder Decisions on Thursday, 21st December, 2023, 12.00 pm \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

6. Alternative options considered and rejected

- 6.1** Private Contractor - in the event that Wyre Council are unable to operate the service in-house consideration was given to using the a private pest control company. This was rejected on the basis that our existing commercial contracts would be at increased risk of being lost to the private sector and further jeopardise the service.
- 6.2** Ceasing the service - in the event that Wyre Council are unable to operate the service in-house consideration has been given to ceasing provision of this discretionary service. This was rejected at this time as it ensures that Public Health treatments are maintained.

7. Delegated functions

- 7.1** The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive function delegated to the Leisure, Health and Community Engagement Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council's constitution): "To determine charges or fees for any relevant services operated within the Portfolio."

Financial, Legal and Climate Change implications	
Finance	<p>The report enables Lancaster City Council to undertake public health domestic rodent treatments in the Wyre area as and when required to support delivery of the service. This will require a change to existing fees and charges to replicate those of Lancaster City Council. These charges will apply even if Wyre are providing the treatment and not Lancaster. There will be a reduction in the council's income when the service is provided by Lancaster City Council. This has been estimated at £24,330 based on a six month period as detailed in 4.7 above.</p>
Legal	<p>The provision of pest control treatment services is a discretionary service for which there is a general power to charge under section 93 of the Local Government Act 2003.</p> <p>The aim of discretionary charging is to allow local authorities to recover the costs of providing services or improvements to services that they might not otherwise have been able to justify providing or been in a position to provide. Local authorities are under a general duty to secure that, from one financial year to the next, the income from charges for services does not exceed the costs of provision.</p> <p>A service level agreement will be entered into with Lancaster City Council.</p>
Climate Change	<p>There is no significant Climate Change impact anticipated as a result of this report although there will be a slight increase in transport emissions due to the additional distances travelled when using Lancaster City Council to provide the service.</p>

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
ICT	x
data protection	✓

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

report author	telephone no.	email	date
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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
none	N/A	N/A

List of appendices

None

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