



Portfolio Holder Decisions

Resources / Planning and Economic Development

1. **Future High Streets Fund Capacity and Resource Grant - Appointment of Consultant** (Pages 1 - 4)

Report of the Service Director Performance and Innovation.

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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, Service Director Performance and Innovation	Councillor Alan Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder and Councillor Michael Vincent, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder	10 October 2019

Future High Streets Fund Capacity and Resource Grant - Appointment of Consultants

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval to deliver the Future High Street Fund (FHSF) development grant of £150,000 which was received following the submission of a successful expression of interest.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 We will maximise economic growth by attracting investment to Wyre and by supporting businesses to prosper.
- 2.2 We will work with partners to improve the transport infrastructure and connectivity across the Fylde Coast.
- 2.3 We will maximise commercial opportunities, improve the return from all our assets whether that be buildings or land and deliver efficiencies.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder confirms the Service Director for Performance and Innovation's acceptance of the FHSF development grant and approves that the grant be utilised to ensure a business case is submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) by the 30 April 2020 deadline.

- 3.2** That procurement of a consultant to undertake the Fleetwood Masterplan is progressed and the Resources Portfolio Holder authorises the Service Director for Performance and Innovation to appoint the consultant complying with Financial Regulations and Financial Procedure Rules.
- 3.3** That approval is given by the Resources Portfolio Holder to appoint specialists consultants to undertake a place shaping piece of work to tell the story of Fleetwood under the exemption to contract procedures contained within the Financial Regulations and Financial Procedure Rules on the grounds that they may apply regarding “the appointment of consultants....and other people providing professional services”.

4. Background

- 4.1** The FHSF is a key element of the Government’s plan to help high streets to evolve and adapt to changing times. They want to see thriving places created where the community feels engaged, and vibrant town centres where people live, shop, use services and spend their leisure time. The objective of the fund is to renew and reshape town centres and high streets in a way that improves experience, drives growth and ensures future sustainability.
- 4.2** The FHSF is a two-round fund with two stages to the application process. The Council has successfully submitted an expression of interest, Phase 1 which was focused around the redevelopment of Fleetwood town centre. We have now moved forward to Phase 2 which is the development of a full business case. During Phase 2, £150,000 revenue grant funding has been allocated to support the development of high street strategies which includes specific project plans and associated business cases setting out how we will regenerate Fleetwood.
- 4.3** Our vision is for a more concentrated high street that meets the needs of the local community and is attractive to the wider visitor economy. Fleetwood Market will be an anchor point for the transformation. Key areas that will be developed as part of the Phase 2 business case include:-
- Accessibility – traffic routing and pedestrianisation
 - New and Improved Public Realm
 - Retail offer
 - Culture and Heritage
 - Business and Skills
 - Digital and Eco-innovations

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The Council will utilise the resource and capacity grant of £150,000 to appoint consultants to help us develop a Fleetwood town centre masterplan and support us in producing a high quality business case to be submitted to MHCLG by 30 April 2020. These elements have the highest priority and are expected to cost an estimated £100,000 in total.

5.2 Remaining funding will be used primarily to commission a piece of work which will help us to create a place narrative (similar to a brand identity) and undertake place engagement for the promotion and development of Fleetwood. This will complement the main master planning work and support ongoing engagement in the community with both this and other projects taking place in the town.

6. Delegated functions

6.1 The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive function delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council’s constitution): “consider departures from Rules relating to financial and contractual matters if appropriate” and the Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder to “consider arrangements for the promotion of the Borough for all purposes associated with inward investment, retention of the economic base of the district, the expansion of commercial enterprise and the development of opportunity for new ventures and to liaise with all other bodies with similar or supportive purposes, in relation to the Borough or part of the Borough or a wider area”.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	The development grant of £150,000 will be allocated to commission consultants to prepare a Fleetwood Town Centre masterplan (estimated to cost £50,000) and to help with the production of the full business case (an estimated further cost of £50,000). The remaining grant will be allocated to commission consultants to undertake a place shaping piece of work and any other elements required by the full business case criteria to strengthen the evidence base for the bid.
Legal	The council will enter a contract with the successful consultants to comply with the Council’s Financial Procedure Rules and Contract Procedures.

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
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	✓
climate change	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
None		

List of appendices

None

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