



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
Clare James, Corporate Director Resources	Councillor Alan Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder	22 October 2020

Housing Advisory Programme – Appointment of Consultants

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval to deliver the Housing Advisory Programme (HAP) grant of £25,000 which was received following the submission of a successful expression of interest and to utilise up to a further £10,000 from existing budgets for associated site surveys.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 We will maximise commercial opportunities, improve the return from all our assets whether that be buildings or land and deliver efficiencies.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That approval is given by the Resources Portfolio Holder to appoint specialists consultants to undertake a development brief in relation to the Bourne Hill, Fleetwood site 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 On 27 March 2019, Cabinet approved a report for the appropriation of land at Bourne Hill, Fleetwood. This would enable the council to deliver a suitable site for development in line with the Local Plan and to continue the economic growth in Thornton and Fleetwood, enhancing the Hillhouse Enterprise Zone and thus furthering the aims and objectives of the Councils’ Business Plan.
- 4.2 Subsequently, the Corporate Director Resources submitted an Expression of Interest to the HAP for funding to meet the cost of

consultants and site surveys to help bring the site forward for disposal and £25,000 was awarded.

- 4.3** The Lancashire One Public Estate (OPE) Programme Team were consulted and an approach recommended to engage consultants with significant experience in OPE schemes and those of a similar nature. Discussions were held with the consultants prior to the onset of Covid-19 in early March 2020 but these had to be suspended owing to the pandemic. An extension to the HAP funding deadline was agreed to 31 December 2020 by which time the funding must be spent or returned.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The council will utilise the HAP funding of £25,000 to appoint consultants to help us produce a development brief and undertake various site surveys to de-risk the site and increase its value prior to disposal.
- 5.2** To complete all the various site surveys recommended, a further £10,000 is expected to be required and this will be met from existing budgets.

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) to: "consider departures from Rules relating to financial and contractual matters if appropriate".

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	External funding from the HAP of £25,000 will be used to fund consultancy costs for a development brief and associated site survey costs. Additional funding of up to £10,000 for site surveys will be met from existing budgets.
Legal	The council will enter a contract with the consultants selected to provide the development brief.

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

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	✓
climate change	x

sustainability	x
health and safety	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