



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	25 July 2024

Acceptance of Swimming Pool Support Fund (SPSF) Award

Key decision: Yes

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To approve the acceptance of Sport England's SPSF capital funding of £141,212 to support Fleetwood Leisure Centre and to add the funds to the capital programme to be spent in 2024/25.

2. Council priorities

2.1 We will improve our leisure facilities ensuring they meet the needs of our residents and visitors.

2.2 We will provide opportunities for people to lead healthy and active lifestyles.

2.3 We will explore innovative approaches to reduce carbon emissions from council operations and support our communities and businesses to do the same.

2.4 We will secure external funding and investment to make improvements to places across the borough.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That approval is given to accept Sport England's SPSF capital funding of £141,212 to support the installation of solar panels and shower flow restrictors at Fleetwood Leisure Centre and that the money is added to the Council's 2024/25 capital programme.

3.2 To note the award of a contract for the installation of solar panels to Project Energy to the value of £136,343.55, which includes a 5% contingency following a successful procurement process.

4. Background

4.1 The governments SPSF nationally provided a total of £80m to local authorities in England as a support package for public leisure facilities with swimming pools. The funding was released in two phases.

4.2 Phase 1 of the funding was available to provide revenue support towards increased cost pressures for utilities. The council successfully applied for Phase 1 funding in Spring 2023 and received £142,107.

4.3 Phase 2 of the funding was made available to support capital investment to improve the energy efficiency of public facilities with pools in the medium to long term. In autumn 2023 we bid for Phase 2 capital funding for energy saving measures at each of our three swimming pool sites. The energy saving measures that we bid for across our sites included investment in air handling units, solar panels, double/triple glazing and shower flow restrictors.

5. Key issues and proposals

5.1 The bid to the SPSF Phase 2 capital fund was successful and we were awarded the maximum that Sport England was able to allocate to the authority. The energy saving measures the fund will support include the installation of photo voltaic panels and shower flow restrictors to a value of £141,212 at Fleetwood Leisure Centre. A tight turnaround was required in order to receive the funding and a grant agreement has been signed in order to comply with central government requirements.

5.2 Following the successful grant award, the council invited four mechanical and electrical contractors to bid for the installation of solar panels at Fleetwood Leisure Centre through the ProContract procurement portal.

5.3 Three bids were received through the portal and evaluated in accordance with the evaluation criteria. The evaluation panel recommendation is to award the contract to Project Energy Ltd as they provided the most economically advantageous tender.

5.4 Work can be carried out following consideration of a G99 licence by Electricity North West and the scheme is due to be completed by the end of September 2024.

5.5 Electricity savings are estimated to be £26,000 per annum and therefore the investment will be paid back in just over five years. The solar panels have a warranty and lifecycle of twenty years.

5.6 The council will use the reactive repairs and maintenance framework agreement to procure the shower flow restrictors for Fleetwood Leisure Centre in accordance with the funding.

5.7 The remaining funding has been used for the appointment of a consultant to assist with the design and provide technical information for the solar panel installation.

6. Alternative options considered and rejected

6.1 That we reject the funding that has been allocated to us from Sport England via the SPSF.

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 Communities Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council's constitution): "To consider matters relating to sport and recreation, including sports facilities" and the executive function delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder "To consider arrangements for a strategic approach for the Council's procurement of goods and services".

Financial, Legal and Climate Change implications	
Finance	<p>To note the acceptance of Sport England's SPSF capital funding of £141,212 to support Fleetwood Leisure Centre and that this be added to the capital programme 2024/25. This funding will then be used for the provision of solar panels and shower flow restrictors.</p> <p>The saving on electricity costs has been estimated to be £26,000 per annum through the generation of electricity which will be used to power the leisure centre.</p>
Legal	<p>The council has signed the agreement with Sport England to accept the SPSF funding.</p> <p>The procurement procedure complies with the council's contract procedure rules.</p>
Climate Change	<p>This funding will help Fleetwood Leisure Centre reduce its carbon footprint and become more energy efficient.</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 an x.

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

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	✓
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