



Are there any conflicts of interest to declare? No

(If "Yes" please contact the Chief Executive before making the Decision. A note of dispensation should be attached).

Scrutiny/Audit

A8 Which Committee should this decision be submitted to? *(Please tick as appropriate)*

Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee

Scrutiny (Regeneration Development and Market Hall) Committee X

Scrutiny (Health and Wellbeing) Committee

Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee

Audit Committee

<p>B1 What is the Decision?</p>	<p>To award a capital grant of £22, 702.26 following the panel approval of an application to the Council's Ward Enhancement Programme, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.</p>
<p>B2 What are the reasons for the Decision?</p> <p>B2 Alternative options considered and rejected?</p>	<p>The Ward Enhancement Programme (WEP) was approved by Cabinet in September 2023 and created a £1.5m funding programme, financed by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), through which communities across the Borough could access capital funding to deliver projects in their local areas that improve prosperity, heritage or tourism.</p> <p>The WEP operates on an application basis whereby local community groups and other organisations can apply for capital funding with their application being considered and reviewed by a Member panel comprised of 5 Councillors and chaired by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development.</p> <p>At the panel meeting on 29th February, an application was approved for the delivery of a project titled: Refurbishment of Wilfred House:</p> <p>The project aims to refurbish Wilfred House so that it can remain open and functioning. WEP funding will be used to replace a flat roof: internal works such as re-decorating, fresh lighting throughout construction and renovation of furniture and furnishings would all be rendered useless if the Flat Roof fails.</p> <p>A grant award of £22,702.26 has been approved for this project, subject to the taking of this Executive Decision by the Leader.</p>
<p>B3 What are the contributions to Corporate Priorities?</p>	<p>The delivery of the Ward Enhancement Programme primarily contributes to the priority of Creating a Prosperous East Staffordshire, Protecting our Heritage, and Standing up for our Communities.</p>
<p>B4 What are the Human Rights considerations?</p>	<p>There are no Human Rights issues arising from this decision.</p>

Financial Implications

<p>B5 What are the financial implications?</p>	<p>The main financial issues arising from this decision are as follows:</p> <p>The funding approved for this project is entirely capital and must be spent by March 2025, in line with the Government's requirements for the UKSPF.</p> <p>The funding is provided through a grant agreement and paid in advance of the project in order to finance its delivery. If the project requires any co-funding, proof of this being secured will be reviewed prior to any funding being released by the Council.</p>
---	--

Revenue	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26

Capital	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	£22,702.26		

<p>The finance section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit:</p>	<p>Please print name: James Hopwood</p> <p>Please sign name: (Approval via email 12/03/2024)</p>
--	--

Policy Framework

B6 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's policy framework?	Yes
B6.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	N/A
B6.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	N/A
B7 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's budget?	Yes
B7.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	N/A
B7.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	N/A

Equalities Implications

B8 What are the Equalities implications:
B8.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits):
B8.2 Negative (Threats):
B8.3 The subject of this decision is [not] a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality impact assessment is attached as Appendix
B8.4 [The equality impact assessment identified the following actions to be carried out:]

Risk Assessment

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications: There is a risk that the funding to refurbish inside might not be realised however, the centre should still be functional without these improvements.
B9.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): The delivery of a WEP project is based on the opportunity to improve local prosperity, heritage and tourism in all areas across the Borough.

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications: There is a risk that the funding to refurbish inside might not be realised however, the centre should still be functional without these improvements.

B9.2 Negative (Threats): The UKSPF funding must be spent by March 2025 and so any risk to project delivery, including financial risk, will be managed through the specific grant agreement.

B9.3 The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

Legal Considerations

B10 What are the Legal Considerations:

B10.1

Under s1 Localism Act 2011, authorities have a power of competence to do anything which an individual can do, which includes the power to grant funding to organisations.

The Grant Funding will not amount to a state subsidy under the Subsidy Control Act 2023, as the amount to be granted is less than the Minimal Financial Assistance level of £315,000.

The Terms of the funding will be incorporated into a Grant Agreement that sets out the terms for how the funding must be spent, and will also contain claw-back provisions.

The funding must also be delivered in line with the Government's guidance on UKSPF funding, including requirements on project promotion and marketing.

The Leader has made this decision rather than the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning, Councillor Hawkins. Cllr Hawkins is also the Chair of the WEP panel and declared a conflict of interest concerning Wilfred House as he is a member of the Centre's management committee. Cllr Hawkins declared his conflict during the panel meeting when Wilfred House was considered and did not take part in the presentation, discussion or decision.

This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team

Please print name: Glen McCusker – Locum Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer.

Please sign name: (Approval via email 11/03/2024)

Environmental Impacts

B11 What are the Environmental Impacts:
There are no significant environmental impacts associated with this decision
B11.1 The impacts are not significant .
B11.2 Positive Impacts (Opportunities/Benefits):
B11.3 Negative Impacts (Threats/Mitigation):

Health & Safety Implications

B12 What are the Health & Safety implications:
B12.1 [A Risk Assessment has been carried out and entered into Safety Media for all significant hazards and risks.] [A Risk Assessment has not been carried out and entered into Safety Media for all significant hazards and risks because there are no significant hazards or risks arising from this decision.]
B12.2 [The significant hazards and risks have been identified in the Safety Media Risk Assessment numbered []. Any financial implications to mitigate against these hazards and risks are considered above.]
B12.3 [Control measures and an action plan have been identified for any significant hazards and risks identified in the risk assessment. The positive/negative impacts are set out below]
B12.3.1 Positive (Benefits)
B12.3.2 Negative (Threats)

Key Decision

B13 Is this a Key Decision? No (*please delete as appropriate*)

Note: A Key Executive Decision is one where:

- 1. REVENUE – Any contract or proposal with an annual payment or saving of more than £100,000**
- 2. CAPITAL – Any capital project with a value in excess of £150,000**
- 3. A decision which significantly affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.**

B13.1 If this is a Key Decision, is this an urgent decision such that a delay caused by use of the Call-in Procedure would <u>seriously</u> prejudice the public interest?	NA
B13.2 If yes, has the Mayor or in his/her absence the Deputy Mayor or in his/her absence the Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee agreed that the decision will be exempt from Call-in?	NA

NOTE: If this decision is subject to the Call-in Procedure it will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 3 working days after publication – unless 10 Members of the Council call in the decision.

Please send the original signed document to:
democratic.services@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk