

Agenda Item No. 4(f)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

28 July 2015

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT GRANTS BUDGET

- (1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval to allocate the Historic Environment Grants budget.
- (2) **Information and Analysis** For 2015-16, the budget for Derbyshire County Council's Historic Environment Grants is £47,291.

Derbyshire County Council has used its Historic Environment Grants budget to lever in funding into the County to protect and enhance the built historic environment. Schemes typically involve the repair and enhancement of historic buildings. This includes appropriate traditional repairs, often using local materials. It can also include the reinstatement of lost architectural features where there is good evidence.

These schemes help protect and enhance the distinct character of Derbyshire's built heritage. This is of increased importance with the growth of the tourism sector as part of Derbyshire's economy. The schemes help promote and utilise traditional building skills. Extensively, this results in the employment of local tradespeople to undertake the work. The outcomes help by contributing to the regeneration of areas to create attractive places where people want to live, work, visit and invest.

The Allocation Proposal for 2015-2016

i) Conservation Area Partnership Schemes

Derwent Valley Conservation Area Grant Scheme

It is proposed to continue last year's arrangement for this financial year which broadly followed the model of English Heritage's (now Historic England) grant scheme which has operated for many years in the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

This scheme includes the conservation areas of 'Cromford' and 'Belper and Milford', with partnership contributions from Derbyshire Dales District Council, Amber Valley Borough Council and Belper Town Council.

Partners have confirmed that they are able to provide the same level of funding for this year and, if Derbyshire County Council was to also contribute the same amount as last year, i.e. £10,500, this would give a total budget of £21,000.

As in the previous year, this is still sufficient to maintain the scheme's momentum whilst other funding options are being explored with partners and other grant bodies, such as the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). There is still a considerable amount of work that can be undertaken in these areas of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

Swadlincote Townscape Heritage

South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) has submitted a Stage 2 bid for a Townscape Heritage scheme to the HLF. It anticipates that it will learn this autumn if it has been successful. If successful, it is hoped that work will start in Swadlincote town centre in January 2016. The total project fund is currently estimated to be £621,326 over a 4-year period. An annual County Council contribution of £10,000, for each of those four years, has been requested by SDDC as part of the potential fund. In anticipation of this confirmation, it is proposed to allocate £10,000 to this initiative from the Historic Environment Grants budget within this financial year.

Bolsover Model Village Townscape Heritage

Bolsover District Council (BDC) will submit its Stage 2 bid to the HLF, in August 2015, with a decision expected in December 2015. If successful, it is anticipated that the scheme for the Model Village will commence in early 2016. The total project fund is currently estimated to be £9,062,404. An annual contribution of £10,000, from the County Council, for each of those four years, has been requested by BDC to form part of the potential fund. In anticipation of this confirmation, it is proposed to allocate £10,000 to this initiative from the Historic Environment Grants budget within this financial year.

ii) Archaeological Grants

In previous years, £10,000 has been earmarked purely for archaeological projects. Due to reductions in the grant budget, it is proposed that bids for grants towards archaeological projects will be the subject of separate reports in respect of the remaining balance of the Historic Environment Grants budget, along with other conservation and historic environment projects.

Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire

Derbyshire County Council usually contributes to half of the costs of the 'Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire' (ACID) publication, which showcases archaeology and conservation work across Derbyshire, and is a free publication that is widely distributed across the County, including to all secondary schools, and is available from Derbyshire County Council Libraries, the Countryside Service Visitor Centres and Derbyshire museums. The other half of the publication cost is funded by the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA).

Derbyshire Archaeological Advisory Committee (DAAC) coordinates the publication of ACID and has received a quote for this year's design and printing of £5,000, which includes editing fee, printing, packaging and delivery. DAAC is therefore seeking a contribution of up to £2,500 from Derbyshire County Council. The Peak District National Park Authority has already confirmed it will be contributing the balance of £2,500.

iii) Other Potential Projects for Funding

Among projects that are currently being invested for financial support are:

- 'Clusters' heritage street works, Belper: the historic network of streets that serve Strutt's millworkers' housing is an important attribute of the World Heritage Site. Under the former HLF-funded Townscape Heritage Initiative, an extensive range of preparatory studies were undertaken to inform the future conservation of these streets.

A local residents' group is investigating funding sources, including electrification of the Midland Main Line, to implement a scheme of repair and enhancement for the streets. A contribution from the Historic Environment Grants budget towards a historically based environmental improvement scheme for the Clusters is being explored.

- Former target wall and firing butts, Belper North Lane: 'Home Front Legacy 1914–18' project is a Council for British Archaeology (CBA) project working with Historic England and partners across the UK to help local communities identify and map the remains of the First World War in Britain. Local people can help to document and preserve Derbyshire's stories, and vulnerable remains, for future generations.

Being in need of repair and consolidation, the condition of this listed structure was identified through the Derbyshire Record Office's initiative, 'Derbyshire Lives through the First World War' and Derbyshire Archaeological Society.

iv) Summary of 2015-16 Historic Environment Grants Budget

Conservation Areas	Derbyshire County Council's Annual Contribution (£)	Other Contributions		Total Grant Budget (£)
	47, 291			
		Districts/ Boroughs and PDNPA (£)	Proposed Heritage Lottery Fund/Other (£)	
Derwent Valley	10,500	10,500	0	21,000
Bolsover Model Village	10,000	10,000	750,535	770,535
Swadlincote	10,000	10,000	155,331	175,331
Sub-Totals	30,500	30,500	905,866	966,866
Archaeology grants 'ACID'	2,500	2,500	0	0
Totals	33,000	33,000	905,866	966,866
Remaining for allocation	14,291			

In addition to the contributions set out above, projects invariably include contributions from the private sector, usually the building owners, which are not quantified in the figures given. These represent an additional tangible investment, nevertheless. Based on a 30% contribution from grant recipients, this could add in the region of £300,000 to the total grant budget figure in the table above. The monies from these projects are extensively invested in the Derbyshire economy, as well as conserving and improving the County's character.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The figures quoted in respect of potential Townscape Heritage schemes are subject to change as those bids are developed and refined.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

- (4) **Key Decision** No.
- (5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.
- (6) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details - Adam Lathbury, extension 39791.
- (7) **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member approves:
- 7.1 The allocation of £10,500 towards the Derwent Valley Mills Conservation Area Partnership scheme between Derbyshire County Council, Amber Valley Borough Council, Belper Town Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council, for 2015-16.
- 7.2 The allocation of £10,000 towards a Townscape Heritage scheme in Swadlincote between Derbyshire County Council, South Derbyshire District Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund and other contributory partners, for 2015-16 subject to the bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund being successful.
- 7.3 The allocation of £10,000 towards a Townscape Heritage scheme in Bolsover (Model Village) between Derbyshire County Council, Bolsover Borough Council the Heritage Lottery Fund and other contributory partners, for 2015-16 subject to the bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund being successful.
- 7.4 A £2,500 contribution towards the printing and publication costs of 'Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire'.

Mike Ashworth
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