

Agenda Item No. 4(c)

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

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

**31 May 2016**

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities

**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 2016-17, the budget for Derbyshire County Council's Historic Environment Grants is £40,500.22.

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 2016-2017**

**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, and Amber Valley Borough Council.

Partners have confirmed that they are able to provide the same level of funding for this year as last and, if Derbyshire County Council is also able to contribute the same amount as last year, would give a total budget of £18,000.

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 been successful in its bid for a Swadlincote Townscape Heritage scheme to the HLF. The scheme effectively started in Swadlincote town centre in January 2016. The total project fund is £411,600 over a four year period. An annual County Council contribution of £10,000, for each of those four years, has been requested by SDDC. A contribution of £10,000 was rolled forward from the Council's allocation to the 2014-15 Conservation Area Partnership Scheme in Swadlincote as it was not allocated due to now resolved resource issues at SDDC. A further contribution of £10,000 was paid in 2015-16. It is proposed to contribute £10,000 to this initiative from this year's Historic Environment Grants budget. This will leave one further year of contribution to the Swadlincote Townscape Heritage scheme should funds be available.

### **Bolsover Model Village Heritage Scheme**

Bolsover District Council (BDC) was successful in its bid to the HLF for a comprehensive package of repair and refurbishment works to Bolsover Model Village. The scheme effectively started in the Model Village in 2016. The total project fund is £10.5m. An annual contribution of £10,000, from the County Council, for each of those four years, has been requested by BDC. An initial contribution of £10,000 was paid in 2015-16. It is proposed to allocate the second contribution of £10,000 to this initiative from the Historic Environment Grants budget within this financial year. This will leave two further years of contributions to the Bolsover Model Village Heritage Scheme, should funds be available.

## **ii) Archaeological Grants**

In previous years, £10,000 has been earmarked purely for archaeological projects. Due to reductions in the grant budget, it was proposed and agreed last year 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 fees, printing, packaging and delivery. DAAC is therefore seeking a contribution of up to £2,500 from Derbyshire County Council. The PDNPA has already confirmed it will be contributing the balance of £2,500.

### **iii) Other Potential Projects for Funding**

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

- 'Clusters' heritage street works, Belper: This historic network of streets serves Strutts' millworkers' housing and is an important attribute of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. The roads are un-adopted public highways and are in a deteriorating poor condition.

A local residents group is investigating funding sources, including contributions from the 'public pot' of the electrification of the Midland Main Line project, which will impact on the bridge structures through the Clusters. It is hoped that any money from the Midland Main Line electrification project could be used as match funding to the HLF to facilitate the implementation of a repair and enhancement scheme for the streets. A contribution from the Historic Environment Grants budget towards preparatory work may assist in realising the enhancement scheme.

- Derbyshire Building at Risk Survey: Derbyshire County Council coordinates a buildings at risk list for Derbyshire. The list is hosted by Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust (DHBT) on its website. The list is based on an initial survey undertaken by DHBT over 20 years ago and updates supplied by each Local Planning Authority. The current list is becoming unfit for purpose.

The HLF has indicated that it would look favourably on an application from DHBT, supported by the County Council, to coordinate volunteers to resurvey all listed buildings in Derbyshire to produce a new up-to-date list. A contribution from the Historic Environment Grants budget towards preparatory work in submitting a stage 1 application to the HLF may assist in realising the survey.

#### iv) Summary of 2016-17 Historic Environment Grants Budget

Conservation Areas	Derbyshire County Council's Annual Contribution (£)	Other Contributions		Total Grant Budget (£)
	<b>40,500.22</b>			
		Districts/ Boroughs and PDNPA (£)	Heritage Lottery Fund/other (£)	
Derwent Valley	9,000	9,000	0	18,000
Bolsover Model Village	10,000	10,000	482,875	502,875
Swadlincote	10,000	10,000	100,000	120,000
<b>Sub-Totals</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>582,875</b>	<b>640,875</b>
Archaeology grants 'ACID'	2,500	2,500	0	5,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31,500</b>	<b>31,500</b>	<b>582,875</b>	<b>645,875</b>
Remaining for allocation	<b>9,000.22</b>			

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 investment, nevertheless. 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 As set out in the report.

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 Communities Department. Officer contact details - Adam Lathbury, extension 39791.
- (7) **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member approves:
- 7.1 The allocation of £9,000 towards the Derwent Valley Mills Conservation Area Partnership scheme between Derbyshire County Council, Amber Valley Borough Council, and Derbyshire Dales District Council, for 2016-17.
- 7.2 The allocation of £10,000 towards the Swadlincote Townscape Heritage scheme between Derbyshire County Council, South Derbyshire District Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund and other contributory partners, for 2016-17.
- 7.3 The allocation of £10,000 towards Bolsover Model Village Heritage scheme between Derbyshire County Council, Bolsover Borough Council the Heritage Lottery Fund and other contributory partners, for 2016-17.
- 7.4 A £2,500 contribution towards the printing and publication costs of 'Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire'.

**Mike Ashworth**  
**Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities**