

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

OFFICER EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD (Non Key)

The following decision was taken on 16 February 2017 by the Director of Creative Sheffield.

Date notified to all members:

Officer Non-Key decisions are not subject to call-in.

1. **TITLE**

Putting the Sheaf Back Into Sheffield - Acceptance of Environment Agency Grant

2. **DECISION TAKEN**

(i) That the Environment Agency Grant offer of £50,000 to Sheffield City Council be accepted; and

(ii) authority be delegated to the Director of Finance and Commercial Services, Director of Legal and Governance and Executive Director to finalise the grant funding agreement in accordance with Council procedures.

3. **Reasons For Decision**

Option 3 is the preferred option. This funding will help progress the early developmental stages of the deculverting project enabling a better understanding of the culvert, the river bank, river bed and the weir.

This will enable the design for the project to be worked up in more detail, with a view to submitting a planning application when funding is secured.

This will help to de-risk the project and enable more accurate drawings and costings to be drawn up.

4. **Alternatives Considered And Rejected**

Option 1- Do Nothing. The culvert is in a poor state of repair and is already incapable of bearing heavy vehicles. The culvert will require repair or removal at the Council's expense in the next three years. Remedial work carried out in an emergency is costly, would be completely at the Council's expense as landowner, and will not provide the regeneration benefits that a planned removal of the culvert will. This option is not acceptable.

Option 2 – Refuse the offer of £50k funding and continue to seek funding for the whole deculverting project from elsewhere. The Council does not have funds to complete the deculverting works including the creation of the new open space. This option is not acceptable for the same reasons as Option 1.

Option 3 – Accept the EA grant (recommended). Preparatory survey work can be undertaken which will enable costs for the removal of the culvert to be accurately drawn up, which will inform future bids for funding and the wider project, as well as de-risking the project. The project design will also be worked up, in preparation for submission of a planning application at a future date. This will reduce the time involved in progressing the full project once funding is secured.

5. **Documents used in making decision:**

6.1 **Any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member who is consulted by the Officer when making the decision**

6.2 **Any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service**

7. **Respective Director Responsible for Implementation**

Executive Director, Place