

Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee

Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 2.00 pm

**To be held in the Town Hall,
Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillor Martin Smith
Councillor Minesh Parekh
Councillor Henry Nottage
Councillor Terry Fox
Councillor Kurtis Crossland
Councillor Brian Holmshaw
Councillor Abdul Khayum
Councillor Barbara Masters
Councillor Laura Moynahan

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

The Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee discusses and takes decisions on:

- Economic Development, Skills and Culture
- Business growth and economic strategy
- Arts development and projects
- Theatres. Museums, galleries etc
- City and community events
- Employment policy and programmes
- Adult education and Skills
- Enterprise, employment and digital skills
- Adult skills policy and programmes

Meetings are chaired by Councillor Martin Smith.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk . You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda. Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Policy Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the [Council's webpage](#) or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Policy Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last on the agenda.

Meetings of the Policy Committee have to be held as physical meetings. If you would like to attend the meeting, please report to an Attendant in the Foyer at the Town Hall where you will be directed to the meeting room. However, it would be appreciated if you could register to attend, in advance of the meeting, by emailing committee@sheffield.gov.uk, as this will assist with the management of attendance at the meeting. The meeting rooms in the Town Hall have a limited capacity. We are unable to guarantee entrance to the meeting room for observers, as priority will be given to registered speakers and those that have registered to attend.

Alternatively, you can observe the meeting remotely by clicking on the 'view the webcast' link provided on the meeting page of the [website](#).

If you wish to attend a meeting and ask a question or present a petition, you must submit the question/petition in writing by 9.00 a.m. at least 2 clear working days in advance of the date of the meeting, by email to the following address: committee@sheffield.gov.uk.

In order to ensure safe access and to protect all attendees, you will be recommended to wear a face covering (unless you have an exemption) at all times within the venue. Please do not attend the meeting if you have COVID-19 symptoms. It is also recommended that you undertake a Covid-19 Rapid Lateral Flow Test within two days of the meeting.

If you require any further information please email committee@sheffield.gov.uk.

FACILITIES

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SKILLS POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA
20 MARCH 2024**

Order of Business

Welcome and Housekeeping

The Chair to welcome attendees to the meeting and outline basic housekeeping and fire safety arrangements.

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Exclusion of Press and Public

To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public

3. Declarations of Interest

Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting

(Pages 7 - 10)

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 21st February, 2024.

(Pages 11 - 16)

5. Public Questions and Petitions

To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public.

(NOTE: There is a time limit of up to 30 minutes for the above item of business. In accordance with the arrangements published on the Council's website, questions/petitions at the meeting are required to be submitted in writing, to committee@sheffield.gov.uk, by 9.00 a.m. on Monday 18th March 2023).

6. Members' Questions

To receive any questions from Members of the committee on issues which are not already the subject of an item of business on the Committee agenda – Council Procedure Rule 16.8.

(NOTE: a period of up to 10 minutes shall be allocated for Members' supplementary questions - one supplemental question on each question may be asked by the Member who had submitted the original question).

7. Work Programme

Report of the Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement

(Pages 17 - 26)

Formal Decisions

8. **2023/24 Q3 Budget Monitoring** (Pages 27 - 38)
Report of the Director of Finance and Commercial Services
9. **Economic Recovery Fund - Round 2 Update** (Pages 39 - 58)
Report of the Executive Director City Futures

Briefings and Updates

10. **Employment and Skills Strategy Update**
Report of the Executive Director City Futures

Report to Follow

NOTE: The next meeting of Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee will be held on a date to be confirmed.

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its Policy Committees, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either -
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from David Hollis, General Counsel by emailing david.hollis@sheffield.gov.uk.

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Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee

Meeting held 21 February 2024

PRESENT: Councillors Martin Smith (Chair), Minesh Parekh (Deputy Chair), Henry Nottage (Group Spokesperson), Terry Fox (Group Spokesperson), Kurtis Crossland, Brian Holmshaw, Abdul Khayum, Barbara Masters and Laura Moynahan

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 No apologies for absence were received.

2. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 Councillor Nottage declared an interest in item 11 due to him being a business owner that had received a carbon audit under a Shared Prosperity Fund scheme.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 20th December, 2023 were approved as a correct record.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

5.1 The Policy Committee received no petitions and one question from a member of the public. The member of the public did not ask their question in person, a written response would be provided.

6. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

6.1 No questions were received from Members.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

7.1 The Principal Democratic Services Officer presented the Work Programme and made reference to a referral from Council asking that the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee consider adding to its work programme, the completion of the Green Jobs and Skills Strategy initiated by Greens during the Cooperative Executive. Officers confirmed that details on this would be provided in the skills update to be provided at the March meeting of the committee.

7.7 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that, having considered if they required any further additions or adjustments:-

1. the Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed, including any additions and amendments identified in Part 1
2. consideration be given to the further additions or adjustments to the work programme presented at Part 2 of Appendix 1;
3. Members give consideration to any further issues to be explored by officers for inclusion in Part 2 of Appendix 1 of the next work programme report, for potential addition to the work programme.

8. **CULTURE STRATEGY**

8.1.1 The committee considered a report seeking approval to make the grant award of £118,250 revenue funding from the Project Feasibility Fund to Harmony Works Trust Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), for the development and completion of a detailed business case for a regional music education hub at Castlegate.

8.1.2 The Chair noted the thanks of the committee to everyone that had contributed to the project including the University of Sheffield and Arts Council England.

8.1.3 The committee offered its thanks to Rebecca Maddox, Head of Business Development for all her work on the strategy.

8.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee:-

1) Notes:

- the progress so far in developing a new Culture Strategy for Sheffield
- details of the Shared Prosperity Fund Year 3 Cultural Showcase activity
- detail of the Place Partnership bid which was recently submitted
- progress with the Cultural Pipeline Fund

2) Approves the grant award of £118,250 revenue funding from Project Feasibility Fund to Harmony Works Trust (CIO) for the development and completion of a detailed business case for the creation of a regional music education hub at Castlegate.

8.3 **Reasons for Decision**

8.3.1 The report provides a progress update on SCC's new Strategic Approach to Culture. The recommendations build on previous reports in September 2022, February 2023 and September 2023. The recommendation to support Harmony Works Trust (CIO) with Project Feasibility Funding builds on the principles of the Strategic Approach to Culture, and will create strong positive outcomes for education, skills, culture, regeneration and heritage.

8.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 8.4.1 The proposed allocation of PFF funding to Harmony Works Trust (CIO) could be refused. This would create a funding gap for the project and slow or stop the development work on the project. It would put at risk significant funds already secured by the project from Levelling Up Fund and National Lottery Heritage Fund. If the project did not proceed, this would be a huge loss for the city, especially for our young people and music-based groups.

9. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & SKILLS CAPITAL STRATEGY

- 9.1.1 This report set out the key priority areas for capital investment for Economic Development and Skills and provided an overview of potential projects and priorities for the years 2024 to 2029, together with an overview of anticipated developments and challenges up to 2052. The Committee was asked to endorse the general approach to inform the Council's overarching Capital Strategy (which would be brought to Full Council for approval in March 2024).
- 9.1.2 Members queried the information provided in item 6 of the report and officers agreed to seek further clarification from the Finance team.
- 9.1.3 Discussion took place around the weighting that had been given to the climate emergency and the committee's responsibilities in relation to this. It was noted that the Transport, Climate and Regeneration Policy Committee had climate change as one of its remits, but consideration was given to whether this should be spread more widely. The Chair agreed to take this away and discuss with the Governance Committee as part of their work on committee remits.

9.2 RESOLVED: That the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee:-

1. Endorse the proposals set out in this report.
2. Note that the proposals will now be included in the draft Capital Strategy to be submitted to Full Council for approval in March 2024 and, if approved:
 - a) Officers will work with Members to consult with relevant stakeholders (including with partners, staff, trades unions [if required] and in respect of equalities and climate change) on the proposals in this report to inform final project proposals;
 - b) Officers will work to develop any necessary detailed implementation plans for the proposals in this report so that the proposals can be implemented as planned; and
 - c) Approval for detailed proposals will be sought as part of the monthly capital approval cycle by the Finance Committee

(NOTE: The result of the vote was FOR – 8 Members; AGAINST – 0 Members; ABSTENTIONS – 1 Member)

9.3 Reasons for Decision

- 9.3.1 Members were asked to note the unsustainable financial position highlighted by

the medium-term financial analysis presented to Strategy and Resources Committee in September 2023.

- 9.3.2 This report and its recommendations set out how capital projects can continue to be developed and delivered, despite the limited resources available and continue to deliver quality infrastructure for the people of Sheffield.

9.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 9.4.1 The Council is required to both set a balanced budget and to ensure that in-year income and expenditure are balanced. Committee is invited to comment upon and endorse the current proposals to form part of the Council's wider Capital Strategy for 2024/25

10. **CLIMATE STATEMENT**

- 10.1 The committee considered a report of the Executive Director for City Futures seeking endorsement of the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee's Climate Statement.

- 10.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee:-

- a) consider and agree the committee climate statement to ensure that the proposed actions contained within are reflected in their Work Programme.
- b) agree to the development of a monitoring process which will be presented to Committee for consideration in June 2024.
- c) review what other measures could be used to support or encourage further reduction in emissions from business and industry

10.3 **Reasons for Decision**

- 10.3.1 It is important that the response to the Annual Climate Progress Report is open and transparent in setting out the challenges which the local authority faces in making progress and clarifies future expectations on the part we all have to play in addressing climate change.
- 10.3.2 Committee does not currently have specific strategic goals for climate. The process required to develop these, and have the statements approved to be read at each committee meeting meant that option 5.2 was not feasible with the available resource and timeframe.

10.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 10.4.1 Not providing committee climate statements considered due to the resource required to collate.
- 10.4.2 Providing more detailed Committee Climate Statements that provided an overview of strategic climate goals, with each Chair then reading the committees statement publicly at their respective committee meeting following release of the report.

11. LIFELONG LEARNING AND SKILLS QUALITY UPDATE REPORT

11.1.1 The committee considered a report of the Director of Education and Skills containing updated information about provision in the Lifelong Learning and Skills Service up to 31 December 2023 as presented to the Lifelong Learning and Skills Advisory Board in January 2024. The report contained statistical information about the service, the numbers of learners being supported and the quality of provision.

11.1.2 Members requested feedback on the service from learners and officers agreed to share this with the committee and also a breakdown of the data by ward.

11.1.3 A question was asked about whether the survey that had been carried out gave any indication that learners were looking for courses that were not provided by the service. Officers acknowledged that this was the case and advised that a report on curriculum design would be brought to the committee at a future meeting.

11.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee:-

- 1) Note the content of the report.
- 2) Note that officers will provide the committee with updated information at regular intervals to ensure the activities of the service are appropriately shared to demonstrate performance and the against the grant funding received.

11.3 Reasons for Decision

11.3.1 This paper is to provide an update on the quality of provision current delivered.

11.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

11.4.1 No decision is required from Committee, this paper is to provide an update on the quality of provision current delivered.

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Report to Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee

20th March 2024

Report of: James Henderson, Director of Policy and Democratic Engagement

Subject: Committee Work Programme – Economic Development and Skills

Author of Report: Amanda Clayton, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Summary:

The Committee's Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion. This aims to show all known, substantive agenda items for forthcoming meetings of the Committee, to enable this committee, other committees, officers, partners and the public to plan their work with and for the Committee.

Any changes since the Committee's last meeting, including any new items, have been made in consultation with the Chair, and the document is always considered at the regular pre-meetings to which all Group Spokespersons are invited.

The following potential sources of new items are included in this report, where applicable:

- Questions and petitions from the public, including those referred from Council
- References from Council or other committees (statements formally sent for this committee's attention)
- A list of issues, each with a short summary, which have been identified by the Committee or officers as potential items but which have not yet been scheduled (See Appendix 1)

The Work Programme will remain a live document and will be brought to each Committee meeting.

Recommendations:

1. That the Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed, including any additions and amendments identified in Part 1;
2. That consideration be given to the further additions or adjustments to the work programme presented at Part 2 of Appendix 1;
3. That Members give consideration to any further issues to be explored by officers for inclusion in Part 2 of Appendix 1 of the next work programme report, for potential addition to the work programme; and

Background Papers: None

Category of Report: Open

COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

1.0 Prioritisation

1.1 For practical reasons this committee has a limited amount of time each year in which to conduct its formal business. The Committee will need to prioritise firmly in order that formal meetings are used primarily for business requiring formal decisions, or which for other reasons it is felt must be conducted in a formal setting.

1.2 In order to ensure that prioritisation is effectively done, on the basis of evidence and informed advice, Members should usually avoid adding items to the work programme which do not already appear:

- In the draft work programme in Appendix 1 due to the discretion of the chair; or
- within the body of this report accompanied by a suitable amount of information.

2.0 References from Council or other Committees

2.1 Any references sent to this Committee by Council, including any public questions, petitions and motions, or other committees since the last meeting are listed here, with commentary and a proposed course of action, as appropriate:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Issue | |
| Referred from | |
| Details | |
| <i>Commentary/ Action Proposed</i> | |

3.0 Member engagement, learning and policy development outside of Committee

3.1 Subject to the capacity and availability of councillors and officers, there are a range of ways in which Members can explore subjects, monitor information and develop their ideas about forthcoming decisions outside of formal meetings. Appendix 2 is an example 'menu' of some of the ways this could be done. It is entirely appropriate that member development, exploration and policy development should in many cases take place in a private setting, to allow members to learn and formulate a position in a neutral space before bringing the issue into the public domain at a formal meeting.

3.2 Training & Skills Development - Induction programme for this committee.

| Title | Description & Format | Date |
|-------|----------------------|------|
| | | |
| | | |

Appendix 1 – Work Programme

Part 1: Proposed additions and amendments to the work programme since the last meeting:

| Item | Proposed Date | Note |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| NEW | | |
| Employment and Skills Draft Strategy sign off | September 24 | Draft Strategy approval |
| Climate Statement performance update | September 24 | Performance update against climate statement signed off by EDS |
| Maximising Social Value impacts | September 24 | Policy development role, with relevant policy decisions referred to relevant committees |
| Race Equality Commission Actions performance update | December 24 | Reporting a year on from the last report of progress made on REC actions for EDS |
| AMENDMENTS | | |
| Tramlines | June 24 | Following decision made by Charity Sub Committee (to be noted at the EDS March meeting), a further report assessing the implications for EDS of the event to be programmed |
| LGBTQ quarter | September 24 Committee | Informal workshops with EDS / TRC to take place first |

Part 2: List of other potential items not yet included in the work programme

Issues that have recently been identified by the Committee, its Chair or officers as potential items but have not yet been added to the proposed work programme. If a Councillor raises an idea in a meeting and the committee agrees under recommendation 3 that this should be explored, it will appear either in the work programme or in this section of the report at the committee's next meeting, at the discretion of the Chair.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Topic | |
| Description | |
| Lead Officer/s | |
| Item suggested by | |
| Type of item | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 2)</i> | |
| Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3)</i> | |
| Lead Officer Commentary/Proposed Action(s) | |

Part 3: Agenda Items for Forthcoming Meetings

| Meeting 6 | 20 th March 2024 | Time 2pm | | | | |
|---|--|------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Topic | Description | Lead Officer/s | Type of item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision Referral to decision-maker Pre-decision (policy development) Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring) | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 1)</i> | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 2)</i> | Final decision-maker (& date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Cttee Another Cttee (eg S&R) Full Council Officer |
| 2023/24 Q3 Budget Monitoring | | Jane Wilby | Decision | | | This committee |
| Economic Recovery Fund – Round 2 Update | This report updates the Committee on progress to deliver the second round of the Economic Recovery Fund. | Sarah Lowi Jones | Decision | EDS Policy Committee have been regularly briefed throughout the development | Not relevant to this decision, but there is a stakeholder plan that aims to inform and engage | This committee |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|--------|---|--|----------------|
| | | | | <p>and launch of ERF2 and the main three members sit on the ERF Steering Group. LAC Chairs have been kept informed throughout as well.</p> <p>It is expected that on this specific decision the EDS Policy Committee will be briefed, alongside LAC Chairs and political group briefings will be offered.</p> | the public in ERF progress and delivery. | |
| Employment & Skills Strategy Update | On Wednesday 15 March 2023, the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee tasked the Sheffield Employment & Skills Advisory Board (SESAB) with developing a renewed Employment & Skills Strategy for Sheffield. | Laura Hayfield | Update | A Member Task & Finish group has supported the development of the strategy providing updates to the wider Committee | The commissioned consultant has engaged with a variety of stakeholders in developing the draft strategy, including SESAB partners and wider stakeholders (including providers, delivery staff and residents). The consultant has also drawn upon desk- | This committee |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | based research undertaken by South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority in the course of developing a regional skills strategy, insight from the Local Skills Improvement Plan and wider policy steer. | |
| Standing items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Questions/ Petitions</i> • <i>Work Programme</i> • <i>[any other committee-specific standing items eg finance or service monitoring]</i> | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Meeting 1 2024/25 | June 2024 | TBC | | | | |
| Topic | Description | Lead Officer/s | Type of item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Decision</i> • <i>Referral to decision-maker</i> • <i>Pre-decision (policy development)</i> • <i>Post-decision (service</i> | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 1)</i> | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 2)</i> | Final decision-maker (& date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Cttee • Another Cttee (eg S&R) • Full Council • Officer |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| | | | <i>performance/ monitoring)</i> | | | |
| NEW: Culture Strategy | Draft Culture strategy for consultation | Diana Buckley / Kate Brindley | <i>Pre-decision (policy development)</i> | CLRs updated via email and via regular committee updates. EDS and LAC chair briefings in train | Full engagement plan agreed | This Cttee |
| Major Events (to incl. Tramlines) | | Diana Buckley | Monitoring | Briefing to Committee Members in Dec 23. | N/A | This committee |
| Items which the committee have agreed to add to an agenda, but for which no date is yet set. | | | | | | |
| Topic | Description | Lead Officer/s | Type of item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Decision</i> • <i>Referral to decision-maker</i> • <i>Pre-decision (policy development)</i> • <i>Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i> | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 1)</i> | <i>(re: decisions)</i> Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 2)</i> | Final decision-maker (& date) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Cttee • Another Cttee (eg S&R) • Full Council • Officer |
| NEW: Gainshare Revenue Paper | Overview of options for allocation of Gainshare Revenue funding | Diana Buckley | Decision | TBC | TBC | TBC |

Appendix 2 – Menu of options for member engagement, learning and development prior to formal Committee consideration

Members should give early consideration to the degree of pre-work needed before an item appears on a formal agenda.

All agenda items will anyway be supported by the following:

- Discussion well in advance as part of the work programme item at Pre-agenda meetings. These take place in advance of each formal meeting, before the agenda is published and they consider the full work programme, not just the immediate forthcoming meeting. They include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers
- Discussion and, where required, briefing by officers at pre-committee meetings in advance of each formal meeting, after the agenda is published. These include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers.
- Work Programming items on each formal agenda, as part of an annual and ongoing work programming exercise
- Full officer report on a public agenda, with time for a public discussion in committee
- Officer meetings with Chair & VC as representatives of the committee, to consider addition to the draft work programme, and later to inform the overall development of the issue and report, for the committee's consideration.

The following are examples of some of the optional ways in which the committee may wish to ensure that they are sufficiently engaged and informed prior to taking a public decision on a matter. In all cases the presumption is that these will take place in private, however some meetings could happen in public or eg be reported to the public committee at a later date.

These options are presented in approximately ascending order of the amount of resources needed to deliver them. Members must prioritise carefully, in consultation with officers, which items require what degree of involvement and information in advance of committee meetings, in order that this can be delivered within the officer capacity available.

The majority of items cannot be subject to the more involved options on this list, for reasons of officer capacity.

- Written briefing for the committee or all members (email)
- All-member newsletter (email)
- Requests for information from specific outside bodies etc.
- All-committee briefings (private or, in exceptional cases, in-committee)
- All-member briefing (virtual meeting)
- Facilitated policy development workshop (potential to invite external experts / public, see appendix 2)
- Site visits (including to services of the council)
- Task and Finish group (one at a time, one per cttee)

Furthermore, a range of public participation and engagement options are available to inform Councillors, see appendix 3.

Appendix 3 – Public engagement and participation toolkit

Public Engagement Toolkit

On 23 March 2022 Full Council agreed the following:

A toolkit to be developed for each committee to use when considering its ‘menu of options’ for ensuring the voice of the public has been central to their policy development work. Building on the developing advice from communities and Involve, committees should make sure they have a clear purpose for engagement; actively support diverse communities to engage; match methods to the audience and use a range of methods; build on what’s worked and existing intelligence (SCC and elsewhere); and be very clear to participants on the impact that engagement will have.

The list below builds on the experiences of Scrutiny Committees and latterly the Transitional Committees and will continue to develop. The toolkit includes (but is not limited to):

- a. Public calls for evidence
- b. Issue-focused workshops with attendees from multiple backgrounds (sometimes known as ‘hackathons’) led by committees
- c. Creative use of online engagement channels
- d. Working with VCF networks (eg including the Sheffield Equality Partnership) to seek views of communities
- e. Co-design events on specific challenges or to support policy development
- f. Citizens assembly style activities
- g. Stakeholder reference groups (standing or one-off)
- h. Committee / small group visits to services
- i. Formal and informal discussion groups
- j. Facilitated communities of interest around each committee (eg a mailing list of self-identified stakeholders and interested parties with regular information about forthcoming decisions and requests for contributions or volunteers for temporary co-option)
- k. Facility for medium-term or issue-by-issue co-option from outside the Council onto Committees or Task and Finish Groups. Co-optees of this sort at Policy Committees would be non-voting.

This public engagement toolkit is intended to be a quick ‘how-to’ guide for Members and officers to use when undertaking participatory activity through committees.

It will provide an overview of the options available, including the above list, and cover:

- How to focus on purpose and who we are trying to reach
- When to use and when not to use different methods
- How to plan well and be clear to citizens what impact their voice will have
- How to manage costs, timescales, scale.

There is an expectation that Members and Officers will be giving strong consideration to the public participation and engagement options for each item on a committee’s work programme, with reference to the above list a-k.



Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report: Philip Gregory,
Director of Finance and Commercial Services

Tel: +44 114 474 1438

Report of: *Philip Gregory, Director of Finance & Commercial Services*

Report to: *Economic Development & Skills Committee*

Date of Decision: *20th March 2024*

Subject: *2023-24 Q3 Budget Monitoring Report*

| | | | | |
|--|-----|--------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? <i>(Insert reference number)</i> | | | | |
| Has appropriate consultation taken place? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:- | | | | |
| <i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i> | | | | |

Purpose of Report:

This report brings the Committee up to date with the Council's General Fund revenue outturn position for 2023/24 as at Q3.

Recommendations:

The Committee is recommended to:

Note the updated information and management actions on the 2023/24 Revenue Budget Outturn as described in this report.

Background Papers:
[2023/24 Revenue Budget](#)

| Lead Officer to complete: - | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required. | Finance: Philip Gregory, <i>Director of Finance and Commercial Services</i> |
| | | Legal: <i>Sarah Bennett, Assistant Director, Legal Services</i> |
| | | Equalities & Consultation: <i>Adele Robinson, Equalities and Engagement Manager, Policy, and Performance.</i> |
| | | Climate: n/a |
| <i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i> | | |
| 2 | SLB member who approved submission: | <i>Philip Gregory, Director of Finance and Commercial Services</i> |
| 3 | Committee Chair consulted: | <i>Cllr Zahira Naz, Chair of the Finance Committee</i> |
| 4 | I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the EMT member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1. | |
| | Lead Officer Name: <i>Philip Gregory</i> <i>Jane Wilby</i> | Job Title: <i>Director of Finance and Commercial Services</i> <i>Head of Accounting</i> |
| | Date: 1 st March 2024 | |

1. PROPOSAL

1.1. This report provides an update on the current outturn position for Sheffield City Council's revenue budget for 2023/24.

2023-24 Q3 Financial Position by Directorate

1.2. At the end of the third quarter of 2023-24, the Council's revenue budget shows a forecast overspend of £16.7m. This was an improvement of £700k from the previous quarter's outturn position.

| Full Year £m | Q3 Outturn | Budget | Q3 Variance | Q2 Variance | Move ment |
|---|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Neighbourhood Services | 148.9 | 146.8 | 2.1 | 3.3 | (1.2) |
| Adults | 146.7 | 144.2 | 2.6 | 3.4 | (0.8) |
| Children's | 142.5 | 131.3 | 11.2 | 8.8 | 2.4 |
| City Futures | 49.2 | 48.8 | 0.4 | 1.0 | (0.6) |
| Strategic Support | 15.0 | 10.6 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 0.0 |
| Public Health & Integrated Commissioning | 12.8 | 11.2 | 1.6 | 1.8 | (0.2) |
| Corporate | (498.4) | (492.9) | (5.5) | (5.2) | (0.3) |
| Total | 16.7 | (0.0) | 16.7 | 17.4 | (0.7) |

1.3. This overspend is due to a combination of factors. Agreed Budget Implementation Plans ("BIPs") are not forecast to fully deliver within the year. There are underlying cost and demand pressures faced by services that are partially offset by one-off items. These "one-offs" consist of grant income, draws from specific reserves or provisions and income from central government or external sources.

| Full Year Variance £m | One-off | BIPs | Trend | Total Variance |
|---|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Neighbourhood Services | (4.7) | 2.9 | 3.9 | 2.1 |
| Adults | (11.2) | 3.5 | 10.3 | 2.6 |
| Children's | (5.0) | 4.0 | 12.2 | 11.2 |
| City Futures | (0.1) | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Strategic Support | (1.1) | 0.1 | 5.5 | 4.5 |
| Public Health & Integrated Commissioning | (0.5) | 0.0 | 2.0 | 1.6 |
| Corporate | 0.0 | 0.0 | (5.5) | (5.5) |
| Total | (22.7) | 10.9 | 28.5 | 16.7 |

1.4. In 2021/22, the Council set aside £70m of reserves to manage the financial risks associated with delivering a balanced budget position. Overspends against general fund budgets in 2021/22 and 2022/23 have meant we have drawn almost £40m from this reserve to date. Current overspends of £16.7m would deplete this reserve to just £14m for budget overspends for 24/25 and beyond. Given this challenging position and likely requirement in the next few years to draw on this reserve, a further £12.5m has been identified from a one-off surplus from our collection fund. This is subject to approval at full council on 6th March.

1.5. 2023-24 Q3 Financial Position by Committee

1.5.1. The major budget risk areas are in Childrens & Adults Social Care and in Homelessness services:

| Full Year £m | Q3 Outturn | Budget | Q3 Variance | Q2 Variance | Movement |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Adult Health & Social Care | 154.6 | 152.5 | 2.1 | 3.1 | (1.0) |
| Communities Parks and Leisure | 46.8 | 47.1 | (0.4) | 0.8 | (1.2) |
| Economic Development & Skills | 11.1 | 11.1 | 0.0 | (0.0) | 0.1 |
| Education, Children & Families | 145.6 | 132.4 | 13.2 | 10.9 | 2.3 |
| Housing | 11.1 | 8.2 | 2.9 | 3.2 | (0.3) |
| Strategy & Resources | (462.7) | (462.5) | (0.2) | 0.6 | (0.8) |
| Transport, Regeneration & Climate | 43.6 | 43.6 | (0.0) | (0.0) | 0.0 |
| Waste & Street Scene | 66.6 | 67.6 | (1.0) | (1.1) | 0.1 |
| Total | 16.7 | (0.0) | 16.7 | 17.4 | (0.7) |

1.5.2. In 22/23, the Council's overspend improved by over £14m from the first quarter's forecasts to final outturn. This was mainly due to additional income received rather than underlying improvements in budgets and cost reductions. Whilst there is a likelihood we may receive some additional government funding in the final quarter of 2023/24, it is unlikely we will see an improvement on this scale.

Many underlying budget issues in social care services still remain and this is reflected in the current forecast position.

1.5.3. Most of the overspend is due to underlying cost and demand pressures in services. We estimate that £28.5m is embedded in the baseline costs but is somewhat mitigated by one-off income:

| Full Year Variance £m | One-off | BIPs | Trend | Total Variance |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Adult Health & Social Care | (11.5) | 3.5 | 10.1 | 2.1 |
| Communities Parks and Leisure | (0.2) | 0.1 | (0.2) | (0.4) |
| Economic Development & Skills | 0.1 | 0.0 | (0.1) | 0.0 |
| Education, Children & Families | (5.2) | 4.0 | 14.4 | 13.2 |
| Housing | (1.7) | 0.2 | 4.4 | 2.9 |
| Strategy & Resources | (3.6) | 2.8 | 0.6 | (0.2) |
| Transport, Regeneration & Climate | 0.0 | 0.1 | (0.2) | (0.0) |
| Waste & Street Scene | (0.6) | 0.3 | (0.7) | (1.0) |
| Total | (22.7) | 10.9 | 28.5 | 16.7 |

1.5.4. Balancing the General Fund 2023/24 budget was only possible because the Council identified £47.7m of savings:

General Fund Budget Implementation Plans (in £m)

| Committee | Total Savings | Financial Savings Deliverable in Year | In Year Gap | Financial Savings Deliverable Next Year (Slippage) | Undeliverable Savings |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|--|-----------------------|
| Adult Health & Social Care | 31.6 | 28.0 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 0.0 |
| Comm, Parks & Leisure | 2.0 | 1.9 | 0.1 | | 0.1 |
| Economic Dev & Skills | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | | 0.0 |
| Ed, Children & Families | 6.9 | 2.9 | 4.0 | 0.3 | 3.6 |
| Housing | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | | 0.2 |
| Strategy & Resources | 4.1 | 1.4 | 2.7 | 2.5 | 0.2 |
| Transport, Regen & Climate | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.1 | | 0.1 |
| Waste & Street Scene | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.3 | | 0.3 |
| Grand Total | 47.7 | 36.8 | 10.9 | 6.4 | 4.5 |

The current forecasts show £10.9m savings plans are undeliverable this year. This represents a delivery rate of 77% against target with a further 14% set to be delivered in the following year.

In 22/23, less than 65% of savings targets were delivered. Whilst we are improving upon overall delivery performance, we are still falling short of targets meaning further draws could be required from our reserves to meet these overspends if they are not managed and mitigated. Delivering in year budgets must be a key focus for all services for the Council to retain financial sustainability.

-
- 1.5.5. Inflation is continuing to fall; from April 2023 CPI at 7.8% to 4.2% in December (month 9). Whilst we are seeing some stabilisation in the cost base, the fall in inflation does not mean that our costs will now reduce, higher costs are now embedded in baseline expenditure. There is an increased demand for services alongside cost pressures in social care, home to school transport and homelessness services.

1.6. Key Committee Overspends:

- 1.6.1. **Adult Health and Social Care are forecast to overspend by £2.1m** The main area of overspend in the service sits in staffing budgets. The high cost of packages of care put in place during covid increased our baseline costs and this carries into 23/24. Work to review packages of care has continued throughout 23/24 which has helped to reduce baseline costs in Homecare. This work and one-off funding has mitigated the position again this year leaving a £0.5m overspend in the purchasing budgets. However, there remains an underlying pressure of around £10m, a significant aspect of which is within Learning Disabilities, plus £3.5m savings undelivered in 23/24 which will need to be resolved through the Recovery Plan for 2024/25. This was presented to Committee 31 January 2024 detailing how underlying issues, which are estimated at around £17m including additional staff pressures, will be addressed. Action owners and responsible Assistant Directors are currently working through implementation plans to ensure the requisite staff capacity and any additional resources are made available.

- 1.6.2. **Education, Children and** The key overspends in the service relate to placements with external residential placements a particular issue which are

Families are forecast to overspend by £13.2m

forecast to overspend by £6.7m. The average placement cost has increased to £5,800 per week but due to a limited number of places in the city, placements for the most complex children can cost much more. Actions are being taken to ensure that costs for placements are being met by all elements including education and where possible health. High-cost placements are also being reviewed.

The savings proposal for £1.6m to increase fostering placements this year is forecast to not be delivered. Marketing is taking place, but our number of foster carers remains static. Nationally this has been an issue since the pandemic as older foster carers decided to exit the market and there has not been the like for like recruitment to new foster carers. Overall looked after children numbers have remained stable with increased demand being met, where possible, through family based placements.

Further demand in home to school transport costs are forecast to create a £3.6m overspend against budgets this year. Since the start of the new school year, the overspend has increased due to a further 180 children now requiring transportation to school. Sheffield City Council are now supporting over 2,365 children with transportation to school, this has increased by almost 1,000 children in 4 years, and demand is forecast to continue to increase. An overarching SEND review, including Home to School Transport, is currently underway. Outcomes from the review will bring about longer-term changes to reduce pressures but the underlying cost base will be difficult to reduce due to the rising demand for the service.

Integrated Commissioning budgets are forecast to overspend by £2m in recognition of the unachieved saving from 2022/23 relating to leveraging additional funding from Health partners.

1.6.3. Homelessness support in temporary and exempt accommodation is forecast to cost the Council £8.4m

The Government does not fully subsidise all housing benefit payments made by the Council even though it sets the rules that determine the amount the Council has to pay. In 2022/23, the Council incurred a loss of £5.9m as a result of the legislation relating to temporary homelessness and supported accommodation. The Council is essentially bridging the gap between the amount the accommodation costs to procure and the amount we are able to recover via housing benefits.

In 2023-24, this is forecast to cost the Council £4.5m for temporary accommodation and £3.5m for supported accommodation. The shortfalls are split between the Housing General Fund and Strategy and Resources budgets respectively.

The Budget Implementation Group

1.6.4. A working group is in place to drive

A senior officer working group has been established to help drive delivery of the budget. The purpose of the Budget Implementation Group (BIG) is to improve the delivery of the

| | |
|--|--|
| improvements in budget delivery | Council's annual Revenue Budget (both General Fund and Housing Revenue Account), challenge and drive delivery of the Budget Implementation Plans (BIPs) and make recommendations for the allocation of transformation funding. It will look to facilitate Council wide learning. The group is jointly chaired by the Director of Finance and Commercial Services and the Chief Operating Officer. The group has a nominated core member from each Directorate. |
|--|--|

Transformation Funding

| | |
|---|---|
| 1.6.5. The Council identified £4m to support transformation activity | As part of 2023-24 budget setting, the Council identified a £4m fund that would be used to support programmes of transformational change in the organisation, expedite the delivery of savings plans or support where delivery of savings has become "stuck". The "BIG" group has provided advice, challenge, and recommendations for allocation of the transformation funding to the Council's Performance and Delivery Board. |
|---|---|

In August 2023, the Performance & Delivery board approved bids to support delivery of programmes in Adult Social Care, Housing, Children's services, ICT, HR, and Organisational Strategy to build upon the Future Sheffield programme. These key projects are working to stabilise the organisation and bring budgets back to a steady footing for the future. Each programme of work is being monitored, and progress reported to the Council's Performance & Delivery board to ensure activity remains on track. Overall performance will be reported to the finance committee as part of in-year budget monitoring briefings, with relevant policy committees overseeing progress on programmes in their areas.

Medium Term Financial Analysis (MTFA) & 2024/25 Budget

| | |
|--|---|
| 1.6.6. By law, the council must set a balanced budget | The Council is facing a challenging financial position. The Strategy and Resources Committee on 5 th September received the Council's Medium-Term Financial analysis, highlighted the financial pressures facing the Council over the coming 4 years and the potential gap of £61.2m in resources. |
|--|---|

Each Committee has worked to reach savings targets to achieve a balanced budget for 2024/25. On February 21st 2024, the Strategy and Resources committee recommended the budget to full Council on 6th March.

For 2024/25 we are forecasting pressures of £79m for Committees budgets. These pressures result from rising demand for services but also significant increases in contract and price inflation due to the current economic backdrop. Approximately £49m of these pressures relate to Social Care Services. Through our 2024/25 Business Planning Process, Committees managed to identify £8m of savings to help deliver the balanced budget. Delivery of these savings will require steadfast commitment, and targeted resources from the Council to be successful.

In addition to these savings, increases in Business Rates income and associated grants, uplifts to sales fees and charges where appropriate, additional funding from government (mainly ringfenced to social care) along with the difficult decision to increase Council Tax by 4.99%, means we are able to set a balanced budget for 2024/25.

23-24 Q3 Committee Budget Outturn Position

1.7. Economic Development & Skills Committee – balanced

| 1.7.1. | The Economic Development & Skills Committee budgets is forecast to hit a balanced position for the year | Full Year £m | Outturn | Budget | Variance |
|--------|---|--|-------------|-------------|------------|
| | | EDUCATION & SKILLS (Employment and Skills; Family and Community Learning) | 0.9 | 0.9 | (0.0) |
| | | PARKS, LEISURE & LIBRARIES (Events) | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| | | ECONOMY, CULTURE & SKILLS | 9.6 | 9.7 | (0.1) |
| | | Total | 11.1 | 11.1 | 0.0 |

The forecast for services within the committee is to balance with small offsetting overspends in events and underspends in Economy, Culture & Skills.

1.7.2. Whilst the net budget is £11.1m, the Committee is reliant on £16.6m of income to support the services much of this within Education and Skills from European Social Fund (ESF). The Budget breakdown is shown in the below table:

| Service | Net Budget | Outturn - Income | Outturn - Expend | Total Outturn | Total Variance |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CULTURE, TOURISM & EVENTS | 4.3 | (0.2) | 4.7 | 4.4 | 0.2 |
| DIRECTOR OF ECON DEV & CULTURE | 2.1 | (0.4) | 2.3 | 1.9 | (0.2) |
| EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS | 1.8 | (5.7) | 7.2 | 1.6 | (0.2) |
| ECONOMY & BUSINESS SUPPORT | 1.1 | (0.5) | 1.9 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| FAMILY & COMMUNITY LEARNING | 0.9 | (8.1) | 9.0 | 0.9 | (0.0) |
| EVENTS | 0.6 | (0.8) | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.1 |
| BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & FUND MA | 0.4 | (0.9) | 1.3 | 0.4 | (0.0) |
| Grand Total | 11.1 | (16.6) | 27.7 | 11.1 | 0.0 |

1.7.3. Budget Savings (BIPS) £m

| Financial RAG | Description | Total Savings | Savings Deliverable in Year | In Year Gap |
|---------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Green | Maximising income from external grant sources | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Green | Reduction in activity budget for responding to in-year opportunities | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| | ECONOMY, CULTURE & SKILLS Total | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Green | Review of delivery model of SEND at Sheaf Training Centre. | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Green | Use grant funding to mitigate pay award pressure | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| | EDUCATION & SKILLS Total | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| | Total | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 |

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1.7.4. | The committee's Budget Implementation Plans will be delivered | The four savings targets totalling £0.5m are forecast to be fully delivered this year. |
|--------|--|--|

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

- 2.1 The recommendations in this report are that the committee notes their 2023/24 budget forecast position and takes action on overspends.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 There has been no consultation on this report, however, it is anticipated that the budget process itself will involve significant consultation as the Policy Committees develop their budget proposals

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality Implications

- 4.1.1 There are no direct equality implications arising from this report. It is expected that individual Committees will use equality impact analyses as a basis for the development of their budget proposals in due course.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 The primary purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the City Council's revenue budget monitoring position for 2023/24.

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 Under section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, the Chief Finance Officer of an authority is required to report on the following matters:

- the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of determining its budget requirement for the forthcoming year; and
- the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves.

- 4.3.2 There is also a requirement for the authority to have regard to the report of the Chief Finance Officer when making decisions on its budget requirement and level of financial reserves.

- 4.3.3 By the law, the Council must set and deliver a balanced budget, which is a financial plan based on sound assumptions which shows how income will equal spend over the short- and medium-term. This can take into account deliverable cost savings and/or local income growth strategies as well as useable reserves. However, a budget will not be balanced where it reduces reserves to unacceptably low levels and regard must be had to any report of the Chief Finance Officer on the required level of reserves under section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, which sets obligations of adequacy on controlled reserves.

4.4 Climate Implications

- 4.4.1 There are no direct climate implications arising from this report. It is expected that individual Committees will consider climate implications as they develop their budget proposals in due course.

4.4 Other Implications

4.4.1 No direct implication

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 The Council is required to both set a balance budget and to ensure that in-year income and expenditure are balanced. No other alternatives were considered.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 To record formally changes to the Revenue Budget.



Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report: Sarah Lowi Jones, Diana Buckley

Tel: 0114 223 2368

Report of: Kate Martin, Executive Director, City Futures

Report to: Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee

Date of Decision: 20th March 2024

Subject: Economic Recovery Fund Round 2 - update and consideration of its future

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Type of Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken | Initial <input type="checkbox"/> | Full <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Insert EIA reference number and attach EIA | 2646 | |
| Has appropriate consultation/engagement taken place? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Purpose of Report:

This report:

- i. provides an update on the second round of the Economic Recovery Fund (ERF2);
- ii. sets out proposed route to consider whether there should be any further rounds of funding;
- iii. seeks approval to change the project previously approved for 'Heeley Green and Newfield Green' with a project for 'Newfield Green and Gaunt Shopping Precinct', to be delivered in its place.

Recommendations:

The Committee are asked to:

- Note the progress in delivering the second round of funding.
- Note the intention to appoint an independent agency to conduct an evaluation of ERF2 and consider the future of ERF.
- Approve the proposed project for Newfield Green and Gaunt Shopping precinct in the ERF2 programme, in place of the previous proposal for Heeley Green and Newfield Green.

Background Papers:

[Sheffield Covid-19 Business Recovery Plan \(October 2020\)](#)

[Sheffield City Council One Year Plan \(2021/22\)](#)

[Form 2 Executive Report – Covid-19 Economic Recovery Fund \(03/11/20\)](#)

[Form 2 Executive Report – Sheffield Covid Business Recovery Plan: Phase 1 Recovery Delivery Programme \(09/06/21\)](#)

[Budget amendment approving the £2m allocation to build on the work of ERF \(02/03/22\)](#)

[Report to Economic Development and Skills Committee – 9th June 2022 – \(Economic Recovery Fund 2022-23\)](#)

[Report to Economic Development and Skills Committee – 19th October 2022 \(Decision to approve the second round of the Economic Recovery Fund\)](#)

[Economic Recovery Fund – Evaluation of Round 1](#)

[Report to Finance Committee – 11th September 2023 \(to approve the outcome of the scoring process\) and Report to Economic Development and Skills Committee – 13th September 2023 \(update\)](#)

| Lead Officer to complete:- | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed. | Finance: Adrian Hart |
| | | Legal: Rita Collins and Marcia McFarlane |
| | | Equalities & Consultation: Ed Sexton |
| | | Climate: N/A |
| | <i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i> | |
| 2 | SLB member who approved submission: | Kate Martin |
| 3 | Committee Chair consulted: | Cllr Martin Smith |
| 4 | I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1. | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Lead Officer Name: Sarah Lowi Jones | Job Title: Economic Policy Officer |
| Date: 20/03/2024 | |

1. PROPOSAL

ERF2 to date – Update

- 1.1. The Economic Recovery Fund (**ERF**) is a unique, innovative grant fund that aims to support local economic recovery in district and local centres. The Fund's objectives are:
1. To help build the foundations for economic renewal across Sheffield by investing in communities and high streets, helping to build resilience to the cost-of-living crisis and future economic challenges.
 2. To make high streets and local centres feel safe and welcoming, so that residents want to spend time and shop there.
 3. To encourage businesses and groups to work together on ideas to improve their high streets, and bring new energy to those that already are.
 4. To support high street businesses to work with their communities and leave a lasting legacy of community infrastructure that can continue to thrive once projects are complete.
- 1.2. ERF was developed as part of the city's Covid [Business Recovery Plan](#). The first round of funding was launched in March 2021 and supported 26 projects, with grants of up to £50,000 (small) and up to £200,000 (large). A second round was launched in February 2023 and following a period of application, scoring and review a further twenty-three (23) projects were approved (by Finance Committee) and lead organisations for these projects were required to enter funding agreements with the council.
- 1.3. Of the 23 projects, 19 lead organisations entered funding agreements with the council for their projects. Three areas (Banner Cross, Hackenthorpe, London Road) could not secure a suitable organisation locally to act as lead. The Council undertook a procurement process, compliant with the Council's Contract Standing Orders, to appoint an accountable body that would be their delivery lead. The Council has entered into a service agreement with South Yorkshire Community Foundation (SYCF) who submitted the successful tender. SYCF are now working on behalf of the Council with those local teams.
- 1.4. One other proposal was approved for funding was later withdrawn by the lead organisation. The new proposal for that project is for decision in this report and details are set out below under the section '**Proposal for Gleadless Valley ERF**'.
- 1.5. Areas that were made an offer of grant funding are as follows and a summary of each project can be found in Appendix 1:

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Abbeydale | Newfield Green and Gaunt |
|-----------|--------------------------|

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Shopping Precinct ¹ |
| Banner Cross | Hillsborough |
| Broomhill | Infirmery Road |
| Chapelton | London Road |
| Crookes | Lowedges |
| Darnall | Middlewood |
| Ecclesfield | Northern Avenue |
| Firth Park | Spital Hill |
| Greenhill | Stannington |
| Hackenthorpe | Walkley |
| Harborough Avenue | Westfield |
| | Woodhouse |

1.6.

ERF is overseen by a Steering Group made up of Councillors, senior officers and four private/community sector representatives:

Cllr Martin Smith (Chair of Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee – EDPS)

Cllr Minesh Parekh (Deputy Chair of EDPS Committee)

Cllr Henry Nottage (Group Spokesperson on EDSP)

Diana Buckley (Director, Economic Development, Culture and Skills)

Carl Mullooly (Head of Local Area Committee Team)

Ben Morley (Head of Strategic Development and External Programmes)

Javed Khan (Metro Bank)

Shahida Siddique (Faith Star)

Amy Tingle (City Cabs)

Tom Wolfenden (Sheffield Technology Parks)

Proposed project for Gleadless Valley (Newfield Green and Gaunt Shopping Precinct)

1.7.

All but one of the ERF projects have now entered into funding agreements and are in delivery. Unforeseen circumstances caused one of the proposals (for Heeley Green and Newfield Green) to be withdrawn by its lead organisation. After discussion with them it was agreed the council would seek an alternative organisation to carry forward the project to ensure that the funding allocation could be spent in the local area. Despite enquiring with other local organisations none were able to take on that project.

1.8.

The Gleadless Valley Regeneration Team (part of the Council’s Housing and Neighbourhood Services) has responsibility for delivering the Gleadless Valley Master Plan. Given the overlap between the geography of the original proposal and the Master Plan area, this team were asked to support with finding a suitable local team. They, likewise, were not able to do so, but saw an opportunity to make a quick local impact to the retail area through developing and delivering a project internally.

¹ Original project For Heeley and Newfield Greens was withdrawn – the new proposal for decision in this report replaces that.

1.9.

The proposal was scored by the ERF Steering Group on 7th March 2024, who recommended it be considered for approval by the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee.

1.10.

The project would be led by the Council's internal Gleadless Valley Regeneration Team, which requested a funding allocation of £120k to deliver the project across the two retail areas (Newfield Green and Gaunt Shopping Precinct) in place of Newfield Green and Heeley Green. Being an in-house team, a funding agreement is not needed for this allocation. The team would, in collaboration and partnership with the local businesses and others, aim to deliver a range of physical improvements to the area, commission new public art and deliver a number of events and animating activity (see appendix 1 'summary of projects'). The proposal has been developed and discussed with the relevant Members, who are broadly supportive.

ERF2 to date – Update continued

1.11.

ERF2 Delivery

The first quarterly claims process was completed in January with the second underway currently. Regular (monthly) meetings are held with each project to check progress, offer support and guidance with any issues and maintain oversight of the budget position. Good relationships have been built across all projects and while each is unique and groups are at different stages, good progress is being made by grant recipients across the board. To date, as a programme, the following progress has been made:

1.12.

Christmas Activity

There were events and/or illuminations across ten areas of the city during the Christmas period 2023 that were funded by ERF. These were held in the following areas and were well received by businesses and well attended by residents:

- Manor Park (22nd November)
- Walkley (28th November and 16th December)
- Hillsborough (30th November)
- Woodhouse (9th December)
- Greenhill (9th December)
- Firth Park (9th December)
- Ecclesfield (17th December)
- Westfield (18th December)
- Hackenthorpe – Christmas lights
- Broomhill – shop front Christmas trees

1.13.

Orders for Street Furniture

A key focus in this first part of the delivery period has been to undertake site visits to develop and finalise orders for new street furniture on Highways land. To date orders have been submitted to Amey for 13 areas and include items such as: banner brackets, bins, benches, commando sockets (to enable electricity supply from lamppost columns), planters, signage, trees,

new planting beds and planting, and community notice boards. Some installations have been completed and others are scheduled for completion over the coming weeks.

1.14. **Welcome Event**

A Welcome Event for all projects was held on 17th January in order to bring teams together, allow them time to meet and make connections that will help them support each other during the delivery of their projects. Alumni of ERF1 projects presented their experience, achievements and learning and there was a question-and-answer session as well.

1.15.

The focus was on bringing people together and networking rather than sharing large amounts of information and the event was very well attended and positively received. Several projects requested future events so that learning and experiences can be shared during the delivery period, which will be scheduled (likely before summer break and in mid to late Autumn).

1.16. **Resource Library**

It has been the intention since the outset that the learning and experience from ERF1 is shared with those delivering ERF2 projects. For several months the team have been working to collate information in some key categories to support teams in receipt of funding. This written information is being offered alongside online question and answer sessions. This will continue to be developed and added to in the coming months.

1.17.

It is hoped that these resources, although non-official, will be useful not only to ERF project teams but also to other Council teams looking to undertake place-making activities with local businesses and communities.

1.18. **In the next period**

The project team will continue to work with, support and oversee delivery in each project area; continuing to work with teams to submit any remaining orders to Amey over the coming months.

1.19.

To date, a number of events have been scheduled in several areas for the next period (details to be confirmed in some cases):

- Spring Trail and Makers Market (Firth Park, 23rd March)
- Easter Bonnet Market and Parade (Woodhouse, 30th March)
- Spring Trail and Easter event (Westfield, 30th March)
- Easter event and trail (Ecclesfield, 30th March)
- Easter event and trail (Hillsborough, date TBC)
- St George's Day market and parade (Woodhouse, 27th April)
- Spotlight on independent businesses event (Crookes, 11th May)
- D-Day commemoration event (Chapelton, June day TBC)
- Eid celebration (London Road, June day TBC).

1.20.

In total through the course of delivery it is anticipated that over 600 individual elements will be delivered in ERF2 (this counts each item, e.g. sets of banner brackets). These intended outputs (though these may vary during the delivery period) are summarised below by type. While this table gives

an account of the things in ERF that are easily counted, the broader outcomes, qualitative impacts and value of ERF will be captured through an evaluation of ERF2.

| ERF2 Outputs by Type | Example activity | Est. no. |
|---|--|-----------------|
| Streetscene installations (highway) | e.g. bins, benches, lamppost banners, notice boards | 186 |
| Street Art | Shutter fronts, utility cabinets, murals | 75 |
| Greening | e.g. planters, herb garden, orchard/tree planting, wildflowers | 32 |
| Events | Range from markets to community events focused on high street benefit | 47 |
| Marketing and promotion | e.g. branding, promotion and advertising (leaflets, student engagement, local magazines) | 49 |
| Shop front/place improvement/decoration (private/other) | e.g. shop front improvements, Christmas and other decorations, | 209 |
| Business Network Development | e.g. formalisation of business groups, training and development | 42 |
| Other | e.g. youth engagement/activities, borrow bank, volunteer recruitment and training | 37 |

1.21.

The ERF delivery period will run to the end of December 2024 for most projects, although for some projects this is extended to March 2025 to allow a full 12 months of delivery time (if they entered into a funding agreement later).

1.22.

Independent Evaluation

While ERF was intended at the outset to be a short-term, one-round only programme after the announcement of the second round, questions have regularly been raised as to whether further rounds of funding will be made available. An independent evaluation will be undertaken which will look at the objectives and outputs of ERF, as well as considering whether further rounds of ERF funding should be made available. This will be completed by a supplier to be appointed through a procurement process.

1.23.

It is envisaged that this work be split into two parts – the first being an evaluation of the second round of funding (and anything not captured in the evaluation of the first round). This would broadly cover:

- the objectives and purpose of the Fund and whether these are appropriate and have been met
- the processes and decision-making, timescales and quality of communications
- the impact of the changes made between the first and second rounds of funding
- the outputs, outcomes, impacts and value of the Fund – whether in sum the Fund has delivered what it set out to.

1.24.

The second part of this work would consider the question of what, if

anything, could follow the second round of ERF and the purpose, shape and form that could take in order for it to respond to the changed context. The ERF was established as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic and now operates within the context of a cost-of-living crisis. It was also established before Local Area Committees were in place and before key strategic documents were developed (such as the City Goals, Local Plan, Council Plan). Therefore, this review should take into account:

- the broader economic and social context of now and the immediate/medium-term future
- the local and national policy context
- other local place-making and grant funding programmes specifically aimed at to retail areas (across the country and beyond)

1.25.

It is suggested that it will be important also to consider questions such as:

- How far the ERF as a model of ‘collective grant funding’ is a good way of investing in local high streets – as opposed to direct investment by local authorities or others
- How far the emphasis on collaboration, local leadership and engagement of businesses is right
- How far the distinction between broader business vs community benefit is helpful or desirable
- What levels of grant funding are desirable and what types of funded activity have the greatest impact and value
- What supportive infrastructure a grant fund needs to operate successfully and how can administration and bureaucracy be minimised from both the perspective of the funding organisation and the funding recipient
- If any future funding was to be made available what a fit for purpose model could look like and what should it aim to achieve
- How far should indices of deprivation (or other measures and criteria) guide investment decisions vs the kind of competitive process that ERF has followed

1.26.

Committee may wish to comment on the timing of this work, alongside the process to involve Members in these discussions and development of any potential proposals, given the broader budget setting cycle. Should Councillors wish to allocate budget for a future round of funding in the financial year 2025-26 it will be important to have this evidence and any findings available at the time any options are considered.

1.27.

A suggested timetable for the evaluation and consideration by Councillors is outlined below:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Appointment of a supplier | April 2024 |
| Commencement of research (including the potential for public consultation) | May 2024 |
| Draft report and findings | July 2024 |
| EDS Committee briefing and workshops | August 2024 |
| Report to EDS Committee with options on any | October 2024 |

- 1.28. Councillors are invited to comment on this approach and offer any suggestions that could be incorporated into the evaluation requirement and plan for engaging Elected Members, and the public.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

- 2.1. The Economic Recovery Fund was a key project of the city's Business Recovery Plan and contribute to the following strategic priorities that sit within it:

- Stimulating demand in the local economy
- Opening our city and district centres safely and securely
- Stimulating investment in culture to help rebuild confidence and visitor numbers

- 2.2. The Fund will directly deliver against the following outcomes and actions in the Business Recovery Plan:

- Our places, in the city centre, district centres and in local neighbourhoods, adapt to the changing economy
- Visitors and residents will be able to visit, learn about and enjoy the cultural, leisure and green spaces that Sheffield is renowned for.
- Businesses have the confidence, information, support and infrastructure they need to operate through and beyond the current crisis, to adapt to changing circumstances
- Business failure rates amongst profitable and productive companies are minimised and good quality jobs are safeguarded.
- Opportunities to rebuild and renew our economy whilst becoming a cleaner and more sustainable city, are seized.

- 2.3. In the Sheffield City Council Plan 2024-28 (Together We Get Things Done) ERF2 fits strongly under the following two Strategic Outcomes and three priorities:

2: Great neighbourhoods that people are happy to call home

- High quality neighbourhoods which are clean, green, resilient and safe, and where people can live healthy lives
- Work with communities to improve the places and spaces that make neighbourhoods great places to live and be active

4: A creative and prosperous city full of culture, learning, and innovation

- Drive growth by supporting Sheffield's dynamic business base and building its global reputation

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1. The delivery of the second round of ERF funding has been carried out in consultation with the ERF Steering Group and Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee. No public consultation has been required.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1. Equality Implications

4.1.1. An Equality Impact Assessment was completed for the September 2023 reports and there are no substantive updates to that. The main risks around ERF and equality, diversity and inclusion remain:

- Different sections of local communities feeling that they can be part of and are welcome to participate in the development of projects.
- Ensuring project teams consider accessibility issues in their communications and project delivery (for example in event delivery).
- That focus and efforts promised in proposals are followed through into delivery and sustained throughout that period.

4.1.2. An action plan was identified to mitigate these risks and an update on those is set out below:

| Action No | Description | Progress |
|------------------|--|---|
| 1. | Ensuring projects considered inclusion as part of their proposals (which was scored alongside sustainability and legacy statements) and brief guidance on what to consider was included on the application form. | Complete |
| 2. | Embedding expectations around running projects in an open and inclusive way, with accessibility issues considered, as part of the Funding Agreement each project will sign. | Complete |
| 3. | The project team will ask each project about their specific EDI actions regularly as part of the monitoring process and encourage teams to take this into account during the delivery of their projects. | Ongoing – being picked up in regular meetings |
| 4. | A training session on EDI and accessibility will be offered as part of the induction process for all projects. | Amended – instead building EDI and accessibility into other training sessions |
| 5. | The evaluation team will be asked to evaluate (where this is possible) EDI impacts of ERF projects individually and as a programme. | In progress (specification being developed) |
| 6. | Any central communications delivered will take into account the make-up and needs of the target | Ongoing – also included accessibility and inclusivity as part |

| | | |
|--|-----------|---|
| | audience. | of the communications training for ERF projects |
|--|-----------|---|

4.1.3. These actions and any arising issues relating to EDI will be reviewed by the ERF Steering Group regularly. The central team will look to add any new actions relating to equality and inclusion into this action plan.

4.2. Financial and Commercial Implications

4.2.1. The £2m funding identified for ERF Round 2 is the Council's own funding from the New Homes Bonus and was agreed by Council during the budget-setting process in February 2022. Therefore, there are no outside sources, special conditions or clawbacks to take into account.

4.2.2. The table below gives the ERF2 budget headings and figures as they currently stand:

Table: ERF2 – Budget Headings – As at 1st April 2023

Funding streams

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| District Fund (£1.25m available) | £1,232,873 |
| Flexible Fund (£200k available) | £167,649 |
| Match fund (allocated) | £105,000 |
| Match fund (not yet allocated - includes ERF1 underspend of £130k) | £255,944 |
| | £1,761,466 |

Other

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Business Information Officers (committed in ERF1 - rolled over as still in delivery) | £303,000 |
| SYCF - Accountable Body and Delivery Fee | £36,847 |
| | £2,101,313 |

Project costs

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Staffing and internal fees | £165,000 |
| Comms costs (not incl. officer time) | £15,000 |
| Application Development Workers | £32,687 |
| Evaluation | £50,000 |
| Support and training for projects | £10,000 |
| Contingency | £50,000 |

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| TOTAL | £2,424,000 |
| Variance | £Nil |

4.2.3. **Summary of ERF Balances – 01st April 2023**

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| ERF1 Balance | £424,000 |
| ERF2 Balance | £2,000,000 |
| Total ERF Balance 01st April 2023 | £2,424,000 |

- 4.2.4. The amount of the grant awarded for successful projects will not be increased in the event of any overspend by the recipient in its delivery of the funded activity. Each project will need to manage activity within the allocation they are awarded. All projects include their own contingency and ongoing monitoring will be required to ensure this risk is minimised.
- 4.2.5. The payment of the Funding under the terms of the funding agreement is believed to be outside the scope of VAT unless otherwise agreed, but if any VAT shall become chargeable the payment of the Funding shall be deemed to be inclusive of all VAT and SCC shall not be obliged to pay any VAT over and above the agreed funding allocation.
- 4.2.6. The allocation for the proposed Newfield Green and Gaunt Shopping Precinct is within the overall ERF budget so does not impact on overall forecast spend.

4.3. Legal Implications

- 4.3.1. The Council has no specific powers or duties to deliver economic regeneration. The Council is able to undertake this activity by virtue of Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. This provides Local Authorities with a “general power of competence” and allows them to “do anything that individuals generally may do”. This power is subject to any other obligations or limitations in law that might be relevant, however none have been identified here to prevent use of the general power of competence.
- 4.4.2. The Finance Committee’s decision approved (on 11 September 2023) the council entering a funding agreement with the lead organisation for Heeley and Newfield Greens project area. By accepting the recommendation in this report that relates to Newfield Green and Gaunt Shopping Precinct, the Committee agree changes to the project area as set out in this report, and notes that the internal council team (Gleadless Valley Regeneration Team) will lead that project.
- 4.4.3. Where the council’s internal team is the lead organisation for the project area, the council cannot use the standard grant agreement because the council is unable to lawfully contract with itself. Instead, the Council’s standard internal processes will be used to ensure professional delivery and accountability for the project.

4.5. Climate Implications

- 4.5.1. An Initial Climate Impact Assessment was undertaken and the overall impact of ERF proposals is thought to be carbon neutral, with some potential for modest positive impacts. This is still the position, therefore the main areas in which impact is expected include:
- The installation of bike racks in some areas and encouraging local people to use active travel where possible.
 - Increasing the number of double aperture bins so that recycling is an option for pedestrians passing through the public highway.

- Greening of local public spaces (through, for example, the delivery of planting schemes and installation of trees).
- The consideration of use of resources in the delivery of events (avoiding single use plastic, for example and encouraging active travel to events).
- The offer of training on climate awareness/sustainability for all successful projects.

4.5.2.

The evaluation team will be asked to consider the impact of ERF projects individually and collectively (where possible) as part of this piece of work.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1. Regarding the proposal for Newfield Green and Gaunt Parade alternatives have been considered as follows:

- The Gleadless Valley Masterplan Team have led on local engagement to try and identify an alternative lead organisation for this project, however none were forthcoming.
- Consideration was given to procuring an organisation that could act as an accountable body and project delivery partner for this project, however, this was felt to be undesirable given the clear synergies of delivering ERF in this area alongside the broader Gleadless Valley Masterplan.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. The ERF Steering Group and the team leading the Gleadless Valley Master Plan are aligned in wanting to see allocated money spent in this area. There is high confidence in the team's ability to make a success of the project and commitment to delivering these outputs and outcomes within the delivery period for the project. There are significant synergies to be gained from delivering ERF in an area that will be undergoing significant change in its housing stock and an opportunity to support the retail areas in those locations so they feel that they have a stake in and can benefit from that wider investment.

Appendix 1 – ERF2 Project Summaries

Abbeydale Road

'Independent Abbeydale' seeks to give the area a fresh new identity, with improvements to the public realm and shop fronts; a programme of events; and a marketing campaign including lamppost banners.

- **Identity & Branding - New area identity to move away from dated 'Antiques Quarter'**
- **Events**
- **Shop Front Improvements - shutter art**
- **Public Realm improvements - Benches, bins, noticeboard**

Banner Cross

The Banner cross team will bring new life to their high street and deliver a campaign to re brand the area as part of new marketing activity. They'll also deliver new benches and banners as well as proposed welcome signs to increase the sense of pride and identity of the area.

- **Brand/Marketing/banners**
- **Shop front Christmas trees**
- **Public realm improvement (benches, planters)**

Broomhill

After a transformative first project, the team have applied for further funding to extend street greening, refresh lamp post banners and deliver some street art, all in keeping with the area's status as a conservation area.

- **Artwork - Wall mural, shop front renovations, utility box decoration.**
- **Green Works - Summer planting scheme, planters and hanging baskets.**
- **Christmas tree project - trees and banners installed across shopping area.**
- **Social Media content and website update**
- **Banner changeovers and noticeboard**

Chapelton

After a successful project in ERF1, the Choose Chapelton team have applied for further funding to keep their events programme and marketing campaign going, and commission a new local artwork and orienteering trail.

- **Events / Markets**
- **Orienteering Trail**
- **Christmas lights or signage**
- **Marketing**
- **Benches**

Crookes

'Crookes Collective' will create new community gardens and an orchard in their area, as well as a programme of events and improvements to the street scene.

- **Green Spaces - community gardens, planters, orchards.**

- **Events**
- **Street Scene - New / replacement bins, benches, shutter art, utility box art.**
- **Area promotion - map, brand/logo design, social media campaign**

Darnall

'Discover Darnall' will make the area a destination with a selection of bespoke murals and artwork, street food events and a campaign to stop litter.

- **Street Scene - entrance artwork, planting, new / more bins**
- **Street food events**
- **Litter Campaign - Educational leaflets, banners, posters, video**

Ecclesfield

The team plan to reimagine the branding of the high street and create new heritage trails and events with market stalls, getting people to explore the area in new ways. They'll also bring together a steering committee to help keep positive change going along with adding new street scene improvements and places to linger for longer.

- **Branding - Reimagined branding of high street based in existing heritage and identity.**
- **Events / Trails**
- **Public realm improvements - tidying greenery, installation of picnic tables, seating and bins**
- **Establish Trader Forum**

Firth Park

The team have applied for further funding to plant trees, decorate shutters and run an events programme as part of 'Family Friendly Firth Park'.

- **Tree planting - planting on the roundabout**
- **Shutter Art**
- **Events - 4 x community market events**

Greenhill

The Greener Greenhill project will see new planting to make the neighbourhood more inviting, and a promotional campaign encouraging people to explore the area. The main roundabout at the hub of the precinct will be made more visually appealing through planting schemes, with artwork and sculpture also planned to improve the visual appeal of the surrounding area.

- **Promoting the Area - Banners, loyalty scheme pilot.**
- **Marketing Strategy - Branding, social media, print flyers, posters.**
- **Greenery - Street planters, planting on main roundabout, green area outside library.**
- **Artwork - Street murals or sculpture**

Hackenthorpe

With new lamppost banners, street scene improvements, festive lighting and shutter art, the Hackenthorpe team want to give their area a lift and make shopping in the area more appealing.

- **Banners - Placed on lamppost to promote the local shops along the bus route**
- **Streetscene - New benches and planters**
- **Festive lighting**
- **Shutter Art**
- **Marketing - Social media & flyers promoting local businesses**

Harborough Avenue

The team will bring new life to the area with events, public art, Christmas lighting, new banners and signage, as well as improving shared doors.

- **Events - 4 x events throughout the year**
- **Connections - Banners and signage from heart of Manor Park**
- **Public Art - Shutters, wall mural, QR codes**
- **Shared door improvements**

Hillsborough

The Hillsborough team has applied for further funding to build on their events programme, extend the programme of shop front improvements and shutter art, and deliver a calendar of business workshops.

- **Clean up - Clean bins & street signs, graffiti, bus stops, weed removal, street cleaning.**
- **Business Workshops - Develop an annual calendar of workshops to run 4 times per year.**
- **Events - 4 x trails (Halloween, Christmas, Easter, Summer)**
- **Shutter Art - 3 to 4 shutters**
- **Shop front improvements - 3 to 4 stores**

Infirmery Road

'Next Stop Infirmery Road' will establish a trader and community forum to make sustainable positive change in the area, as well as brightening the parade of shops with store front improvements, benches, planters and signage.

- **Branding & Promotion - Promotional campaign for area, banners, leaflets, social media and local area shopping map.**
- **Place improvement - Shop fronts, planters, signage, benches.**
- **Business forum - Establish a trader and community forum.**

London Road

The team will create a new collective identity for the area with new welcome signs, banners, planters and a mural for the Alderson Road car park. They'll also bring people together with a programme of events for Eid and Christmas while working on a local marketing campaign to capture the student market with everything the area has to offer.

- **Collective identity - Welcome signs, banners, flyers, social media**

- **Events - celebration events**
- **Connecting with students**
- **Shop front improvements and borrow bank**
- **Alderson Road Car Park improvements**

Lowedges

Lowedges Boost will bring new double bins and benches to the high street, as well as a fresh coat of paint for the parade pillars and a clean-up of graffiti.

- **Street scene improvements - Double bins, benches, painting of the parade pillars, graffiti covering and noticeboard.**
- **Artwork/Shutters**

Middlewood

With new benches and bins, planting and street art, the Middlewood team want to make their high street a destination for local people.

- **Street Furniture - Benches, Bins, Planters & Banners**
- **Store Fronts Improvements**
- **Shutter Art**

Newfield Green and Gaunt Shopping Precinct

The Gleadless Valley Regeneration Team, utilising existing links and relationships with businesses and communities in these two retail areas aim to make visual improvement to both areas to give a sense of arrival and place. Alongside visual improvements the team will deliver activities and events that animate the areas and bring people together.

Across both areas the team will:

- **Replace and install new seating**
- **Survey the canopies at both sites and consider scope for repairs**
- **Install public art**
- **Run events and activities**
- **Install planting and greenery**
- **Install signage to improve wayfinding**
- **Encourage community litter picking**

Northern Avenue

The local project team plan to create a short-term space for a programme of events, workshops and drop-in sessions for the local community. They'll also deliver street art to brighten shutters and gable ends, and improvements to make the high street more inviting, from new bins to Christmas lights.

- **Youth engagement programme (through art, culture and music) to tackle anti-social behaviour and build cohesion.**
- **Artwork improvements - painting the upstairs window shutters at co-op and gable ends with street art to brighten area.**
- **Street Scene - Christmas trees and lights for shops, lamppost banners, new bins and wrapping.**

Spital Hill

The team have applied for further funding to build on their first ERF project with a campaign to empower business to keep the area clean and tidy with wide reaching engagement and involvement with the local youth at its heart. There will be 2 x events and the development of a business forum.

- **Ongoing litter campaign and business training**
- **Youth engagement and art project**
- **Events**
- **Business forum**
- **Business borrow bank**

Stannington

Connecting Stannington aims to bring locals and visitors to the high street through a promotional campaign and a programme of events. Shop front improvements, new benches and bike racks will give the shopping areas a lift and encourage people to spend time there.

- **Branding & Promotion - Banners, posters, local area map, notice board & distribution.**
- **Events - 2 x events (1 x festive event and 1 x summer event + promotion)**
- **Shop Fronts - Support for up to 10 businesses on shop front improvements.**
- **Street Scene - New bench, bike racks, permanent Christmas tree**

Walkley

The team have applied for further funding to deliver shop front improvements, public art and signage, as well as supporting Walkley Festival and establishing a local business forum.

- **Marketing - social media, leaflets, QR code**
- **Events - Makers / creators markets / Walkley festival**
- **Map - Local promotional map for leaflet drop and website**
- **Place Improvement scheme - shopfront improvements, public artwork, area signage, through to planters and hanging baskets.**
- **Re-establish Local Business Forum**

Westfield

'Westfield Matters' will improve the local street scene with benches, bins, and improved green spaces, including a new herb garden. They will also bring new artwork to shutters and the footpath wall leading to the shops, and run events to bring the community together.

- **Streetscene - Benches, bins, improve green spaces, planters, herb garden.**
- **Street art - Shutters and footpath wall leading to shops**
- **Events - 3 events through year. Christmas lights/trees.**
- **Marketing/Design - Lamppost banners**

Woodhouse

The Revive Woodhouse team achieved a huge amount with a smaller pot of funding in the last round and have applied for further funding to expand into

monthly events, new signage, and a lamp post sponsorship scheme to promote local businesses.

- **Events – 6-8 events throughout the year**
- **Signage - New directional signs to point to shopping area**
- **Lamppost banners and Christmas tree**
- **Newsletter - Distributed quarterly, with event details, meeting info, local groups and general local information.**