

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

24 MARCH 2021

PLACES TO RIDE APPLICATION UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide the Economic Development Committee with an update on our application for British Cycling grant funding for a new recreational cycling scheme at Thoresby Vale, Edwinstowe.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 At the last meeting of the Economic Development Committee in January 2021, Members agreed that:

- a) Officers should proceed with submission of the Stage Two application to British Cycling's Places to Ride grant funding programme; and
- b) Should our application be successful, a recommendation be made to Policy & Finance Committee to add the scheme to the Capital Programme.

2.2 Stage Two of the process required us to submit a more detailed application and business plan, building upon the outline proposals submitted successfully for Stage One, to British Cycling. Guided by an allocated Investment Manager on behalf of Sport England and a Cycling Delivery Manager at British Cycling, we worked with our partners at Harworth Group PLC to develop and submit the Stage Two proposal with an estimated value of £1.323m. We requested the maximum amount of British Cycling grant funding of £150,000 towards it.

3.0 Current Progress

3.1 On 3 March 2021 the Council received an initial notification from Sport England / British Cycling regarding the funding. At the time of writing we are unable to confirm publicly details of any grant award or its likely total value. Further information in this regard is provided in the **Exempt Appendix**. It is hoped and expected that a formal announcement can be made at the meeting itself.

4.0 Equalities Implications

4.1 A key feature of the proposed scheme is that it will be fully accessible and inclusive in line with its purpose to promote recreational cycling for all.

5.0 Digital Implications

5.1 In developing the scheme, we will consider potential links with the forthcoming 5G 'Connected Forest' hubs at Thoresby Vale and Forest Corner.

6.0 Financial Implications (FIN20-21/8920)

6.1 See Exempt Appendix.

7.0 Community Plan – Alignment to Objectives

7.1 The aims of the scheme align clearly with our vision in the Community Plan 2020-23 (“...to enable local residents and businesses to flourish and fulfil their potential as well as encouraging more visitors to enjoy all that Newark and Sherwood has to offer”) and the objective to “Improve the health and wellbeing of local residents”.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION

That should funding be confirmed as expected, that the Committee recommends to the Policy & Finance Committee that the project be added to the Council’s Capital programme for delivery.

Reason for Recommendations

To allow Members to note progress towards securing grant funding for the project.

Background Papers

Nil.

For further information please contact Richard Huthwaite, Business Manager - Tourism on mb. 07866 008748.

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