

URGENCY ITEMS - MINUTE OF DECISION

Delegation arrangements for dealing with matters of urgency

Paragraph 7.2.1 of the Council's Constitution provides that Chief Officers may take urgent decisions if they are of the opinion that circumstances exist which make it necessary for action to be taken by the Council prior to the time when such action could be approved through normal Council Procedures. They shall, where practicable, first consult with the Leader and Chairman (or in their absence the Vice-Chairman) and the Opposition Spokesperson of the appropriate committee.

Subject:

2021 WRAP "Binrastructure" Grant

Appropriate Committee:

Policy & Finance

Details of Item (including reason(s) for use of urgency procedure):

- 1.1 The current Community Plan contains a desire to ensure that the district remains Cleaner, Safer & Greener. The Environmental Services Action Plan includes an audit of all available litter bins within the district. Areas identified for improvement are laybys on A-roads and trunk roads (A1/A46/A614/A616 etc.). These laybys are heavily used all year round and any litter that doesn't remain contained within any bin provision can often end up littering our trunk roads which are on many occasions a/ the gateways to our district and b/ extremely difficult and costly to cleanse. Very recently WRAP (The Waste & Resources Action Programme) launched a campaign entitled "RAP200 Binrastructure" Project. This encouraged councils with a focused Litter Strategy to bid for a grant to improve their area by following the "Right Bin Right Place" Guidance which would improve areas by additional investment in litter bins.
- 1.2 The E.S Business Unit submitted a bid to the fund to assist with the installation of purpose made bin enclosures for our mainstream layby's. I am extremely pleased to report that we were successful in that bid and WRAP concluded that our district and project were worthy of support to the tune of £20,466.
- 1.3 There are, as you would expect, a number of conditions to the grant. The project needs to be completed in line with the submission. The project must be completed by the end of December 2021 and anything purchased by the grant money cannot be sold on. However there is no condition stating that the council needs to match fund the amount granted. There will be some resource input from the authority but that will be contained within the unit's revenue budget.
- 1.3 Unfortunately, we have been forced into an extremely tight deadline for the acceptance of the grant. The letter confirming award was received into the unit on Monday 15th March 2021 with a return date for acceptance of Thursday 18th March 2021. With no available committee over that period to enable the project to come forward for approval there has been no option other than to seek urgent delegated authority to continue with the project.

Financial Implications (FIN20-21/2122)

A budget will need to be added to the capital programme to the value of the grant and no match funding is required from the Council's own funds.

The assets purchased with the grant funding need to remain in the ownership and management of the Council for the duration of the grant agreement and project outputs will need to be reported to WRAP to comply with the terms and conditions.

Decision

That the grant be accepted and signed and that £20,466 is included within the Capital Programme for 2021/22.

Members Consulted:

Councillor David Lloyd - Leader of the Council (18/3/21)

Councillor Keith Girling - Deputy Leader of the Council (18/3/21)

Councillor Paul Peacock – Opposition Spokesperson (18/3/21)



Date: 19/3/21

Matthew Finch
Director – Communities & Environment