

Title of Report	KEGWORTH QUIET LANE	
Presented by	Councillor Michael Wyatt Communities and Climate Change Portfolio Holder PH Briefed <input type="checkbox" value="yes"/>	
Background Papers	Cabinet Minutes 27 February 2024 (NWL LCWIP) Cabinet Minutes 19 July 2022 (UKSPF)	Public Report: Yes Key Decision: Yes
	Financial Implications	
	£150,000 budget funded through UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF). Allocation of the UKSPF funding to the project was approved by Cabinet 19 July 2022.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	A legal agreement is required to pass the Grant to Leicestershire County Council (LCC) and to allow LCC to complete the required works. The agreement will include the relevant protections for the Council to mitigate against identified potential risks. The agreement does not allow the project to overspend but does allow reasonable adjustments to keep the project in budget. A section 278 is not required which has been confirmed by both LCC and NWLDC Legal Services.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	Leicestershire County Council will lead the delivery of the project under contract with related protections. There are no staffing implications for NWLDC other than ensuring that the contract is delivered in accordance with the specification and conditions of contract.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	

Purpose of Report	To seek approval to enter into an agreement to pass £150,000 of UKSPF grant funding to Leicestershire County Council (LCC) to deliver the UKSPF Quiet Lane scheme in Kegworth.
Reason for Decision	Given the value of the agreement, Cabinet is required to authorise entering into the agreement to pass on the grant.
Recommendations	<p>THAT CABINET:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APPROVES THE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT TO PASS ON £150,000 OF UKSPF GRANT TO LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO DELIVER THE UKSPF QUIET LANE SCHEME IN KEGWORTH; 2. DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO HEAD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES TO APPROVE ALL NECESSARY AGREEMENTS TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE GRANT TRANSFER

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In April 2022 Central Government announced the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). UKSPF is administered by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The fund replaces the European Structural and Investment Funds.
- 1.2 The North West Leicestershire UKSPF Investment Plan was submitted to DLUHC in August 2022. The Investment Plan received final approval on 11 January 2023.
- 1.3 The North West Leicestershire UKSPF Investment Plan received Cabinet approval on 19 July 2022 (see Background Papers) which includes 15 projects focusing on 'Communities and Place', 'Supporting Local Business' and, 'People and Skills'.
- 1.4 Included in the Investment Plan is a project to improve northern district cycleways, specifically in Kegworth with £150,000 of UKSPF allocated.
- 1.5 The NWL Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which was approved and adopted by Cabinet on 27 February 2024 (see Background Papers) identified quiet way treatment to Long Lane, Ratcliffe Lane and Warren Lane linking Kegworth to Sawley Marina.
- 1.6 The estimated cost for this project is £150,000 and it has been identified as the preferred route to make improvements to. An overview of the scheme can be seen at Appendix 1.
- 1.7 The quiet way cycling improvements that have been identified through the NWL LCWIP will be completed in two stages:

- Capital improvements to the highway (Long Lane, Ratcliffe Lane and Warren Lane) such as road surface repairs, passing places, landscaping and signage.
- Education and behaviour change.

1.8 The education aspect will sit outside of the cost envelope for this project, and is to be developed and communicated (to general public and Quiet Lane users) separately by NWLDC officers.

2.0 AGREEMENT

2.1 As the highway is owned and managed by Leicestershire County Council and is their statutory responsibility, Leicestershire County Council is the only organisation that can deliver the required works for the project.

2.2 Therefore, in order to be able to deliver the project, the District Council would need to enter into an agreement to pass the grant to Leicestershire County Council so that they can carry out the works.

2.3 Consequently, officers are seeking approval from Cabinet to enter into an agreement with Leicestershire County Council to pass the grant to them.

2.4 Following discussions with Legal Services, an agreement to pass the £150,000 has been drafted. This will be refined further by Legal Services, if required, following liaison with Leicestershire County Council.

2.5 The agreement will include the relevant protections for the Council to mitigate against identified potential risks.

2.6 The agreement will provide for Leicestershire County Council to complete a scheme of works which includes pre-feasibility, feasibility, detailed design and construction.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The capital programme 2024/25 approved by full Council on 22 February 2024 encompassed the Kegworth Quiet Way scheme.

3.2 Details of the grant are set out in the Background section above.

4.0 Legal Implications

4.1 The draft agreement provides protection against overspend meaning LCC cannot spend more than £150,000 on the project without prior agreement from NWLDC.

4.2 The possibility of scaling back the works can be considered to further mitigate against overspend, this must also be in prior agreement with NWLDC.

4.3 As all works will be managed and delivered by LCC, both LCC and NWLDC Legal Services have confirmed that a section 278 is not required for the works to be

undertaken. This would only be required if NWLDC was engaging a contractor to deliver the works on highway land.

4.4 Work is ongoing on the legal agreement between the District and County Council.

5.0 Risks

5.1

Risks	Mitigations
Overspend – project cost to come in over £150,000.	The agreement will not allow for any overspends, if required the project can be scaled back to stay within budget with prior agreement from NWLDC.
Underspends – project costs come in under £150,000.	If the Quiet Lane project is underspent the funds would come back into NWLDC's remit to reallocate to other projects within the UKSP funding envelope and its related funding agreement with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
Timescales – project not delivered within the timescales set for the UKSPF Grant.	A scheme of works is to be developed in partnership between NWLDC and the works will be completed by LCC by the 31 March 2025. A requirement to deliver within the required timeframe is built into the agreement.
Value for Money – to ensure the Council are getting value for money on the £150,000.	The costed scheme of works is to be agreed by NWLDC and LCC.
The agreement between NWLDC and LCC cannot be agreed	If the project cannot be delivered in a way that fully protects against the interests of NWLDC and adequately mitigates against any risks, then it will not be delivered.

6.0 Timescales

Action	Deadline
Draft Agreement completed	31 May 2024
Agreement finalised and signed	31 July 2024
Project commences	1 August 2024
Project completion	31 March 2025

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning and regeneration - Communities and housing

	- Clean, green and Zero Carbon
Policy Considerations:	NWL Cycling and Walking Strategy NWL Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. NWL Health and Wellbeing Strategy NWL Community Health and Wellbeing Plan Zero Carbon Roadmap and Action Plan
Safeguarding:	None
Equalities/Diversity:	Quiet lanes aim to allow vulnerable users to use the lanes with greater safety and provide access to the countryside and active travel.
Customer Impact:	Cyclists, in particular Kegworth residents, will be able to access the route which will also benefit walkers, wheel chair users and pushchairs. This will encourage residents to use active modes of transport through the countryside which can benefit mental and physical wellbeing, impact on air quality and reduce fuel costs.
Economic and Social Impact:	Improving this route may result in increased use of active modes of transport for commuting. The link between Kegworth and Sawley Marina becoming safer may result in increased access to local businesses and leisure destinations.
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon:	Residents choosing to use active modes of transportation would positively impact on climate change and zero carbon.
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Members were consulted via an all Members briefing and Corporate Leadership Team was also consulted on the UKSPF Investment Plan. Consultation, as a requirement of the project, will take place with residents, Parish Council, internal services, Leicestershire County Council services, ward Members and County Councillors, businesses adjacent or close by and neighbouring authorities between 3 May and 31 May.
Risks:	Identified in section 5.
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