

APPROVAL TO COMMENCE PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES OF KEY GOVERNMENT FUNDED PROGRAMMES

Cabinet	16 June, 2022
Report Author	Louise Askew, Director of Regeneration
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Reece Pugh, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Status	For Approval
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	Yes
Reasons for Key	To gain Cabinet approval to commence procurement activities for projects for the Future High Street Fund, Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund and Margate Town Deal Fund
Ward:	Central Harbour Ward, All Ramsgate Wards, All Margate Wards

Executive Summary:

This paper requests the approval of Cabinet to agree to proceed with various procurement activities required to deliver the government funded; Future High Street Fund, Margate Town Deal and Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund Programmes. In many cases, these projects will need to be delivered by contractors. Where any proposed expenditure exceeds £250,000 Cabinet are required to approve these allocations.

Thanet District Council will receive the grant allocation from the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and any match funding to support this prior to undertaking any works.

Cabinet is asked to approve the commencement of all procurement exceeding £250,000 to allow officers to be able to progress these during the course of the various programmes.

Recommendation(s):

1. Approve the commencement of procurement activities that exceed £250,000 for the Margate Town Deal, Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund and Future High Street Fund, funded from the DLUHC, as detailed at section 2.1.
2. That the Director of Regeneration and Director of Law and Democracy are authorised to agree appropriate contracts for works and grant payments, based on approval from the Director of Finance.

Corporate Implications

Financial and Value for Money

A Cabinet decision is required for the incurring expenditure by the Council, which are anticipated to be in excess of £250,000. The table at section 2.1 sets out a range of economic development projects with expenditure expected over this threshold for Cabinet's approval.

These projects have already received budget approval and are incorporated into our 2022/23 capital programme. The projects are also fully funded from external grant funding allocations.

In accordance with the council's key decision framework, further Cabinet approval will be sought following the completion of the tendering exercise for the award of any individual contracts associated with these projects with a value of £750,000 or above.

The agreed programme has been developed in accordance with DLUHC guidance. All projects have been created with clear business cases that test the ability to deliver the government's requirements, and deliver value for money for the public funds. Each bid clearly outlines specific details in relation to delivery, cost and outcomes.

For all the Government funded programmes, we have already received part of this funding, to commence delivery. In addition all future DLUHC funding will be drawn down in advance of any works being undertaken.

The Section 151 Officer is required to scrutinise and approve regular monitoring returns to DLUHC. These returns will cover actual and forecast spend, alongside programme delivery and output metrics.

Legal

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Corporate

The Ramsgate Future High Street Fund, Margate Town Deal, and Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund projects all support the Council's corporate priority for Growth, by encouraging regeneration. It will also enhance the environment through a variety of activities including traffic management, greening activities, as well as supporting our communities through new job opportunities and providing improved wellbeing.

Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- *Growth*
- *Environment*
- *Communities*

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Thanet District Council has been successful in achieving three key government funded programmes.

- **Future High Street Funds - £2.7m** - to provide a creative workspace and improved highways in Ramsgate.
- **Margate Town Deal - £22.2m** - to develop the creative productions and skills, enhance coastal wellbeing, create highways and public realm interventions, and to improve our heritage assets.
- **Ramsgate Future Levelling Up Programme - £19.8m**, focusing on projects to enhance the Port, Harbour and providing places for local people to engage and develop skills to access the new job opportunities being created in these areas.

1.2 All the investments and costs associated with these programmes are fully funded from external grants and contributions. Clear governance arrangements, and monitoring and evaluation activities have been put in place. This will ensure all expenditure relating to the projects are managed appropriately, and within the total package of funding provided, aiming to mitigate any financial risk the Council.

2.0 Procurement Activities

2.1 As identified in paragraph 1.1 the funding streams are all to be completed by March 2026. Each programme of activity will include various procurement exercises. We are requesting Cabinet approval to proceed the tender process for the below projects.

Funding Source	Tender Exercise	Total Funding for Project*
Future High Street Fund	Procurement for the construction of proposed Highway improvements	£1,641,041
Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund	Undertaking of land based port infrastructure improvements	£3,513,750
Ramsgate Levelling	Marine works to support the port	

Up Fund	infrastructure improvements.	
Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund	Appointment of a project manager to take forward the Clock House, Pier Yard and Smackboys LUF projects (this will be a small % of the total construction cost but may exceed £250,000)	£5,425,000
Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund	Appointment of a design team to take forward the Clock House, Pier Yard and Smackboys LUF projects (this will be a small % of the total construction cost but may exceed £250,000)	
Margate Town Deal	Procurement of the final design and construction of the Skatepark	£750,000
Margate Town Deal	Access Walpole Bay: - Walpole Bay Lift	£1,100,000
Margate Town Deal	Testing New Uses - Procurement of versatile space for testing uses for businesses and the community, toilet and showering facilities.	£700,000
Margate Town Deal	Commissioning of external consultants to put together a fully developed plan for the Winter Gardens	£300,000

**each procurement will be within this envelope*

- 2.2 Due to this extensive activity involved in all three externally funded programmes, it is necessary to be agile in progressing the various procurements required, to achieve the delivery and outcomes of each project. However, further approvals will be required for additional procurements moving forward.
- 2.3 Due to these tight timescales we request approval for the Director of Regeneration and Director of Law and Democracy to be authorised to proceed with all relevant tenders.
- 2.4 On completion of any tender exercise, Cabinet will be requested to approve any contract with a value exceeding £750,000.

3.0 Options

- 3.1 Cabinet approve the commencement of procurement activities that exceed £250,000 for the Margate Town Deal, Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund and Future High Street Fund, funded from the DLUHC, allowing the Director of Regeneration and Director of Law and Democracy to agree appropriate contracts for works and grant payments, based on approval from the Director of Finance.

3.2 If these works are not undertaken there would be a requirement to return the funding, and the benefits associated with these funding programmes, including job creation, improved infrastructure, enhanced wellbeing would not be achieved.

Contact Officer: Louise Askew (Director of Regeneration)

Reporting to: Madeline Homer (Chief Executive)

Background Papers

None

Corporate Consultation

Finance: Chris Blundell, Director of Finance

Legal: Estelle Culligan, Director of Law and Democracy