

Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund: Heritage Lottery Fund Application

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| Cabinet | 28 July, 2022 |
| Report Author | Louise Askew, Director of Regeneration |
| Portfolio Holder | Cllr Reece Pugh, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development |
| Status | For Decision |
| Classification: | Unrestricted |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Reasons for Key | An executive decision which involves applying for external grants which exceed £50,000 |
| Ward: | Central Harbour Ward |

Executive Summary:

This paper requests the approval to submit an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to act as match funding for the Clock House Levelling Up Project in Ramsgate. Cabinet are asked to agree that Thanet District Council submits a Development Phase application to Heritage Lottery (HLF) for £322,740, which will be matched funded with our existing Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) Levelling Up funds to the amount of £35,860.

Recommendation(s):

1. Approve the submission of an application for a Development Phase Grant of £322,740 to the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
2. That the Director of Regeneration is authorised to agree the final submission documents, based on approval from the S151 Officer.

Corporate Implications

Financial and Value for Money

The Council is the Accountable Body for the Levelling Up Fund. The Council has the below in place to deal with matters relating to the funding, management, and assurance protocols are in place to:

- Ensure decisions are made in accordance with good governance principles
- Ensure transparency requirements are met
- Provide a Local Assurance Process

- Receive and account for the funding allocation
- Monitor and evaluate the delivery of individual projects
- Submit regular reports to DLUHC

For the Levelling Up Funded Projects an internal Management Board has been established and a Programme Scrutiny Panel to ensure the projects are being delivered in line with good project management principles - keeping to time, budget, quality and reviewing the risks.

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

Legal

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Corporate

The Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund Project delivers against the Council's corporate priority for Growth, including encouraging the rejuvenation of our towns, creating new opportunities to gain skills and therefore employment.

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.

Part of the ambition of this project is that Ramsgate heritage is more accessible to Ramsgate broad and diverse communities.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Growth
- Communities

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1. One of the projects within the successful Ramsgate Levelling Up Fund was to refurbish the Grade II* listed Clock House to create a cultural heritage exhibition space and public

cafe. As part of this project there was a requirement to gain additional grant funding from other sources, primarily the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

- 1.2. This report requests Cabinet approval to submit a Development Phase grant application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to achieve the desired outcomes of the project.

2. Heritage Lottery Fund Grant Process

- 2.1. There are three phases to the National Lottery Heritage Fund grant process, for grants which exceed £1m. These involve:
 - The submission of an Expressions of Interest (providing an indication of the project and to get an initial agreement from National Lottery Heritage Fund that they wish to progress the project).
 - If the Lottery gives approval to progress, a Development Phase Application should be submitted, this bid provides funding to gain a better understanding of the costs, resources, timeline and the needs of the audiences. This information once completed will inform the final delivery stage bid. If successful, this stage is expected to take up to a year to complete.
 - On completion of the development stage, a further application is made to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the delivery stage of the project.

3. The Clock House Project

- 3.1. Due to the length of time, and steps required as part of the National Lottery Heritage Fund process, it is necessary to take a phased approach to the Levelling Up Fund Clock House project. The first stage, primarily using the Levelling Up funds, will be to address the historic deficit of the existing building. We have allocated £1,006,500 for this stage of the project.
- 3.2. The second stage, on confirmation of the National Lottery Heritage Fund award, will be to undertake the proposed extension of the building, making the whole building accessible to all, creating a new cafe, and exciting new exhibition spaces to achieve the final desired outcome for the project. The total cost of this part of the project is £3,260,000 in capital funding, plus revenue spend for the mobilisation of the facility; costs to be developed.
- 3.3. The costs for the National Lottery Heritage Fund phase of the project has been developed based on:
 - Previously costed works undertaken in 2016
 - Revised assessment of costs in June 2020 to support the Levelling Up Fund Bid
 - Subsequent revisions to the concept design plans to increase accessibility in the building
 - A recognition, as a result of the National Lottery Heritage Fund phase of the project not being able to commence until at least late 2023 (due to the Lottery application process timescales) that there will be additional increases in construction costs.

4. National Lottery Heritage Fund Development Stage Application

- 4.1. The National Lottery Heritage Fund Development stage application will, based on the Lottery's criteria and will focus on the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Stages 0-3.
- 0 - Strategic definition.
 - 1 - Preparation and briefing.
 - 2 - Concept design.
 - 3 - Spatial coordination.
- 4.2. The costs incurred for this stage, will be for the appointment of a Project Manager, undertaking appropriate surveys, appointing a Quantity Surveyor and a Design Team to progress the development of the project to clearly defining the technical design, audience needs and construction requirements to inform the final application for the National Lottery Heritage Fund Delivery Phase Application.

5. Options

- 5.1. Approve the application of a Development Phase Grant of £322,740 to be submitted to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, alongside £35,860 of Levelling Up match funding, to progress the Clock House project, allowing the Director of Regeneration to agree the final grant submission, based on approval from the Section 151 Officer.
- 5.2. If this application was not made only part of the proposed works would be able to be achieved, resulting in the outcomes of the project not being achieved. If the outcomes are not achieved then the Department of Levelling Up Housing and the Communities may confirm the whole project could not go ahead, and there would be a requirement to return the funding. Thus 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*
Interim Reporting to: *Bob Porter, Director of Housing and Planning*

Background Papers

Cabinet: 8 June, 2021 - approved submission of a Levelling Up Bid to the 18 June 2021 deadline

Council: 12 January, 2022 - approval of addition of the Levelling Up Fund Projects For Ramsgate And Margate to the Capital Programme

Corporate Consultation

Finance: Chris Blundell, Acting Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer

Legal: Estelle Culligan, Director of Law and Democracy