



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL



Council

23 May 2024

Report of The Leader of the Council,
Cabinet Member for Finance and
Economic Development

Brownfield Land Release Fund Grant

Report Author

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Purpose of Report

The Council submitted a bid for £2.8m for the Brownfield Land Release Fund. The outcome of the bid is expected in summer 2024 and this report seeks a delegation to approve any Grant award.

Recommendations

The Council delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council (Cabinet Member for Finance and Economic Development) to accept any Grant award received from the Brownfield Land Release Fund.

Decision Information

Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Effective council
Which wards are impacted?	Stamford St. Mary's;

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

- 1.1 The Council have submitted a bid for £2.8m to the Brownfield Land Release Fund. Should the Council be awarded any monies from the grant these would require formal acceptance and allocated to the project.

Completed by: Paul Sutton, Interim Head of Finance

Legal and Governance

- 1.2 As per the Financial Regulations at Part 4 (10) of the Constitution any funding can only be accepted by Full Council. The outcome of the bid is not likely to be known until the summer recess where no Full Council meetings take place, therefore this delegation is to ensure that should any money be offered it can be accepted.

Completed by: James Welbourn, Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1 Council agreed on 8 February 2024 to submit an application to the Brownfield Land Release Fund 2, Round 3 to meet a proportion of the costs of the remediation in respect of the Council owned site at St. Martin's Park, Stamford.
- 2.2 A bid for £2.8m to remediate the site was made to One Public Estate and an acknowledgement was received on 13 February 2024.
- 2.3 The outcome of the bids will not be known until Summer 2024.

- 2.4 A delegation to allow the Deputy Chief Executive to accept any grant offer would avoid the risk of delay in accepting any grant.
- 2.5 Therefore this report is to seek a delegation to the Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Finance and Economic Development to accept any grant money received from the Brownfield Land Release Fund to mitigate the costs for the scheme.

3. Key Considerations

- 3.1 Members supported an application to the Brownfield Land Release Fund 2, Round 3 at their previous meeting on 8 February 2024, this is enacting this recommendation.
- 3.2 Should the delegation not be in place; it may not be possible to accept the funding due to there being no Council meetings during the summer recess. An extraordinary or additional meeting would need to be called for this one agenda item over the summer period in this circumstance.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 Without a delegation, the acceptance of any grant offer would need to be agreed by a meeting of Full Council. Given the decision is anticipated during the summer, this would require an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council.

5. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 5.1 The reason for the delegation in place is to enable the Council to more efficiently accept any offer if one be made.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 An update on the St. Martin's Park project was considered and noted by the Finance and Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 8 May 2024 where the Leader of the Council made the Committee aware of this report and the submission of the Brownfield Land Release Fund 2, Round 3.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 Full Council 8 February 2024
[Agenda for Council on Thursday, 8th February, 2024, 3.00 pm | South Kesteven District Council](#)
- 7.2 Finance and Economic Overview and Scrutiny Committee 8 May 2024
[SMP Report.pdf \(southkesteven.gov.uk\)](#)