## BOROUGH COUNCIL

## **OFFICER DECISION RECORD**

Department:	Resources and Development
Division:	Development and Growth (Estates and Asset Management Section)
Date of Decision / Issue of Licence:	7 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Officer Making Decision:	Denise McGuckin (Managing Director)
Subject / Description and Reason for Decision:	Grant application – Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.
	The government is currently offering public sector bodies the opportunity to apply for grants for the installation of a range of low carbon technologies in public buildings. The scheme is part of the government's plan to meet the target of national net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and up to £1bn is available nationally. The scheme is focussed on heat decarbonisation but a wide range of technologies are eligible subject to the detailed requirements.
	The grant given can be up to 100% of the cost. Dependent on the technology employed financial income or savings may be generated (e.g. from renewable generation), other measures may simply reduce CO2e emissions. Any grant offered may be less than the full cost but there could still be a very strong business case for the project(s) due to revenue savings or generation income well in excess of prudential borrowing costs. If this is not the case then the option exists to refuse the grant offer. Salix are administering and assessing the scheme on behalf of the government. In the event that an application does not fully meet the criteria to be 100% funded by this grant scheme, Salix will discuss with the applicant what other funding options are available.
	The Council is being supported in the bid by the North East, Yorkshire and Humber Energy Hub. The Hub is an initiative funded by the Department of Business Energy and Industrial

Strategy (BEIS) as part of government policy to deliver clean growth and a pathway to Net Zero Emissions. It covers the geography of six Local Enterprise Areas and 31 Local Authorities, from the Humber in the south to Northumberland in the north.

The Hub is one of five Local Energy Hubs operational in England and hosted in this region by the Tees Valley Combined Authority. The Hub was able to make available support from OnGen Ltd who provided software based assessments of potential CO<sub>2</sub>e reduction schemes relating to 5 of the Council's buildings. These assessments provide both financial and carbon impacts including initial capital costs, revenue savings/costs and emissions reduction estimates. Luceco software has also been used in-house to evaluate lighting schemes.

The short timescale available to make the application and the complexity of some of the projects that could potentially be funded has restricted the scope of the application to some extent and thus the proposals have been selected on the basis that they should be relatively straightforward to implement whilst also producing significant emissions savings and in some cases long term revenue savings/income.

It is therefore proposed to make an application for a grant totalling £240,467 for the installation of the following measures:

Civic Centre: Solar PV Panels (on canopies within the Grand Hotel car park).

Civic Centre: LED Lighting throughout

Town Hall Theatre: LED lighting to areas not already upgraded.

Masefield Centre: Air Source Heat Pump

Masefield Centre: Solar PV Panels (on canopies within the car park).

The types of roof structure and covering at both the Civic Centre and Masefield Centre would require additional work to make them suitable to take solar panels, hence the proposal to utilise the car parks. Planning permission will be required for the canopy panels. Initial discussions with the Council's Planning Policy section have been positive.

The deadline for the submission of the application is the 11<sup>th</sup> January. Successful applicants will be expected to implement the schemes by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Type of Decision:	None Key
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Nature of Delegation Being Exercised: Article 12.3 of the constitution excludes the following from being a key decision - bids of £100,000 or greater for funding made by the Authority (subject to consultation with the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer) to third parties provided that a report will be submitted for approval of the scheme and acceptance of the funding, should the bid be successful.

> Finance and Policy Committee have been delegated the power to sponsor new grant-aided schemes subject to specific funding being available.

> The Managing Director in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, Chair of Finance and Policy Committee and the s151 Officer agree that this application is made and that if it is successful a report will go to the Finance and Policy Committee for approval of the scheme and acceptance of the funding

Alternative OptionsVarious types of low carbon heating and other measures such<br/>as insulation have been considered and may be implemented at<br/>a later date.

Any DeclaredNoRegister of InterestIf yes specify

OFFICER WITH THE DELEGATION

NAME:

POSITION: Managing Director

DATE: 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

NAME:

POSITION: Director of Resources & Development

DATE: 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

NAME:

POSITION: Leader

DATE: <u>7<sup>th</sup> January 2021</u>