

Record of Decision taken by Executive Councillor

Decision title: Acceptance of £185k grant from Historic England towards the next phase of repairs at Toneworks, Wellington and the creation of a supplementary budget for that amount

Executive Councillor making the decision: Cllr Mike Rigby

Author Contact Details: Joe Wharton, Joanne O'Hara and Paul McClean

Date of Decision: 16 November 2022

Details of decision:

The portfolio holder approves a supplementary capital budget of £207,596 in respect of Capital Repairs at Toneworks, Wellington, and accepts funding of £185,596 from Historic England plus allocated £22,000 from New Homes Bonus Earmarked Reserve to fund the budget increase.

Following the successful delivery of Phases 1 and 2 repair at Toneworks with external funding from DCMS, Historic England has offered a further £185,596 following a formal application for funds by SWT. This funding is to allow the continuation of contractors on site to allow a seamless continuation of works into Phase 3.

This grant was offered on the 10 November 2022 and must be spent by 15 March 2023.

The project delivery is exceptionally complex and within a tight timeframe. We will continue to work in tandem with our funder and stakeholders through any issues that arise.

Reasons for proposed decision:

The portfolio Holder decision is to be able to proceed and accept the terms of the grant and to approve a supplementary capital budget of £207,596 (this includes the grant and the associated match funding). This will enable the project team to deliver the project within a tight timeframe.

Alternative funding options sourced:

This funding is externally sourced. Were it not available from Historic England the work would not be carried out.

The below has been completed:	Name(s)	Date
Relevant ward councillor(s) consulted	Cllrs Govier, Wheatley, Lloyd, Lithgow, Stock Williams (on receipt of offer)	10 & 11 November 2022

The following are if appropriate / applicable: Yes/No. If yes the implications should be attached to this decision notice.		
Finance implications	YES	
Unitary Council and S24 Direction Implications (Contracts and Land Disposals)	No	
Legal implications	No	
Links to corporate aims	<p>The preservation of the Tonedale area and the restoration of the buildings to bring them into a beneficial use aligns with a number of priority strategic themes and outcomes set out by SWT in the Corporate Strategy:</p> <p>Environment and Economy:</p> <p>“Shape and protect our built and natural environment, supported by a refreshed Local Plan and develop our heritage, culture and leisure offer including a clear vision and delivery plan for the Taunton Garden Town.”</p>	
Climate and Sustainability implications	<p>Preservation of a building with embodied carbon is a key part of the preservation and restoration of Toneworks. In addition, a sub-project of the scheme to analyse the waterways and flood tolerance of the building is underway but this specific funding doesn't relate to that work.</p>	
Community Safety Implications	<p>The site is secured with the existing contractor, further works will see a site presence that helps to deter urban exploration.</p>	
Equalities Impact	N/A	

Safeguarding Implications	N/A	
Risk management	Risk management is dealt with by the main contractor and principal designer under CDM regs.	
Partnership implications	N/A	

Any conflicts of interest declared by Leader or Executive Members consulted on the proposed decision. If Yes provide confirmation from Chief Executive to grant dispensation for the Leader's / Executive Member's views to be considered.

Decision Maker

I am aware of the details of this decision(s), considered the reasons, options, representations and consultation responses and give my approval / agreement to its implementation.

Signed:



Name: Cllr Mike Rigby

Date: 16.11.22

Note – This decision record is for decisions taken by Executive Councillors. The decision(s) can be implemented following publication and the period for any call-in has expired.

FINANCE IMPLICATIONS:

Toneworks is owned by SWT and the purchase cost and subsequent regeneration works are being accounted for as capital expenditure (cost centre XX152G – Heritage at Risk).

For background phase 1 of the project was completed during 2021/22 with an overall cost of £678k. Phase 2 was launched in the same year following the successful bid of a further £400k Historic England grant (time limited for spend by the close of March 2022). Phase 2 will complete imminently. Further work (Phase 3 of Toneworks repairs to areas T, W and R and security provisions) can now be supported by a £185,596 Historic England grant which as part of its grant conditions is time limited (spend/claims to be completed by 15.03.23). This will form a contribution to estimated eligible costs of £207,596 with the remaining £22,000 of match funding to be covered by New Home Bonus designated for heritage.

REQUIREMENT:

The requirement is for portfolio holder approval of a supplementary capital budget of £207,596. This will be funded by a Historic England grant of £185,596 and match funding of £22,000. There are stipulations to the grant of the spend as follows:

- (a) 50% (£92,798) on return of signed contract.
- (b) 40% (£74,238) on completion of works to building T.
- (c) 10% (£18,560) on completion of all works.

The grant will provide the means to pay for the further regeneration of a historically important Somerset West and Taunton asset without the need for any internal funding.

Toneworks building key:

