

COUNCILLORS' INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, 19 September 2023

Bulletin No: IB/1200

INFORMATION ITEM

Pages

1 **Delegated Planning Decisions**

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Delegated planning decisions for the week beginning 11 September 2023 are attached. Contact for enquiries: Jean McPherson, Group Manager (Development Management) on jean.mcpherson@crawley.gov.uk.

2 **Action Taken Under Delegated Authority (Significant Operational Decision): Approve the Signing of the Grant Funding Agreement for the DLUHC Towns Fund Project: Invest in Skills for Crawley (1B)**

Following Cabinet approval on 10 March 2021, Crawley Borough Council signed a Heads of Terms for the Crawley Towns Fund on 24th March 2021 with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (now the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, DLUHC), confirming that the Government would provide funding to Crawley from the Towns Fund, subject to submission of robust project business cases.

The business case summary for the Invest in Skills for Crawley project has recently been endorsed by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. This follows Cabinet approval of the Crawley Towns Fund project business cases on 16 March 2022 and Full Council approval on 30 March 2022 of the capital programme allocations for the Crawley Towns Fund Projects.

The overall objective of the Invest in Skills for Crawley project is to deliver a programme of investment in infrastructure for vocational skills training and higher education to benefit local residents. More specifically, the project involves the development of venues, specialist equipment and facilities with the appropriate quality specifications to accommodate the design and delivery of new training programmes in green tech construction, professional services, engineering and digital. These will empower Crawley's local workforce and boost local businesses in these sectors by helping them to locally recruit people with the correct skills.



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The programme aims to create a compendium of new vocational and higher education training interventions. The amount of Towns Fund monies allocated to this project, as approved by Full Council is: £4.5 million.

A legal agreement with Chichester College Group has been drawn up through the Council's Legal Services Team and sets out the delivery of this work, in accordance with the project business case and guidance from DLUHC.

The decision to approve the funding agreement was taken following consultation with Atif Nawaz, Deputy Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development.

On 10 August 2023, the Head of Economy and Planning under generic delegation 3, took the decision to approve the Council signing of the Grant Funding Agreement for the DLUHC Funded Project: Invest in Skills for Crawley (1B) between Crawley Borough Council and Chichester College Group. This allows Chichester College Group to progress delivery of the project through Crawley College.

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Press Releases

Press releases are available at www.crawley.gov.uk/news.