

EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE

SERVICE AREA:	PLACE
SUBJECT MATTER:	STALYBRIDGE HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE PROGRAMME – CULTURAL CONSORTIUM FUNDING
DECISION:	That it be DETERMINED that: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To accept the cultural consortium funds from Historic England, which includes the requirement to act as the accountable body and authority to make payments as directed; and2. To enter into the relevant agreements between the Council and Historic England in relation to this funding.
DECISION TAKER(S):	Councillor Oliver Ryan
DESIGNATION OF DECISION TAKER (S):	Executive Member – Finance and Economic Growth
DATE OF DECISION:	13 October 2021
REASON FOR DECISION:	Under the terms of the High Street Heritage Action Zone Programme the funding for the cultural programme must be administered by the Council as the Leading Partner for the High Streets HAZ scheme.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS REJECTED (if any):	Do not accept the funding offered but this will have a detrimental impact on opportunities for culture within Stalybridge town centre.
CONSULTEES:	none.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: (Authorised by Section 151 Officer)	<p>The report recommends that the Council acts as the accountable body for the Stalybridge Cultural Consortium grant that will be received from Historic England. The grant sum total of £0.080m will be paid to the Council during the programme period 2021/22 to 2023/24 via a profile that will be agreed with Historic England.</p> <p>The funding will support a cultural programme that will complement the existing Stalybridge High Street Heritage Action Zone project.</p> <p>The Council will act as lead partner of the consortium and will evaluate grant bids received via the 5 partner organisations as stated in section 1.5 to finance initiatives within the cultural programme plan. The Council will pay approved grant values to the respective partner organisation who will also need to comply with an associated funding agreement. The Council will only pay approved sums up to the value of grant received via Historic England during the three year programme. The Council will not pay any sums in advance of receipt from Historic England.</p> <p>It is stated that there will be quarterly and annual monitoring reports submitted to Historic England to ensure compliance</p>

	<p>with the cultural programme plan and that agreed milestones have been delivered.</p> <p>There is no provision within the total £0.080m grant to finance the costs of Council officers that are facilitating / managing this arrangement as the role of the existing Heritage Action Zone programme officer includes a requirement to manage this accountable body process.</p> <p>It is essential that all grants awarded to the consortium partner organisations and the subsequent programmes delivered are in compliance with the grant agreement between the Council and Historic England. Section 11 of the agreement includes clauses that will require repayment of some or all of the grant awarded if the grant is not managed in accordance with the agreed terms.</p>				
<p>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS: (Authorised by Borough Solicitor)</p>	<p>The main terms of the funding agreement setting out the responsibilities of the council are set out in section 2 of this report.</p> <p>It is critical that the terms of the agreement are complied with not only to ensure the delivery of this project and the council's reputation but also because some or all of the grant funding would have to be repaid by the council if any of the clauses in section 11 of the grant agreement are triggered which relate to failure to manage the funding in accordance with the terms of the agreement.</p> <p>In addition to the repayment provisions the council has to ensure that in the spending of this funding the Procurement Regulations 2015 are complied with together the subsidy rules (formerly referred to as state aid).</p> <p>Therefore robust and consistent project managing and oversight it critical.</p>				
<p>CONFLICT OF INTEREST:</p>	<p>None.</p>				
<p>DISPENSATION GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE ATTACHED:</p>	<p>n/a</p>				
<p>ACCESS TO INFORMATION:</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="630 1496 1433 1630"> <tr> <td data-bbox="630 1496 847 1576">Appendix 1:</td> <td data-bbox="847 1496 1433 1576">Historic England Cultural programme Local Grants guidance</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="630 1576 847 1630">Appendix 2:</td> <td data-bbox="847 1576 1433 1630">Historic England Main Grant offer letter</td> </tr> </table> <p>The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Caroline Lindsay, High Street Heritage Action Zone Officer – Stalybridge, by:</p> <p> Telephone: 0161 342 3127</p> <p> E-mail: caroline.lindsay@tameside.gov.uk</p>	Appendix 1:	Historic England Cultural programme Local Grants guidance	Appendix 2:	Historic England Main Grant offer letter
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Signed Dated: 13 October 2021
Councillor Oliver Ryan, Executive Member (Finance and Economic Growth)

EXECUTIVE DECISION REPORT

SERVICE AREA:	PLACE
SUBJECT MATTER:	STALYBRIDGE HIGH STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE PROGRAMME – CULTURAL CONSORTIUM FUNDING
DATE OF DECISION:	13 October 2021
DECISION TAKER(S):	Cllr Oliver Ryan
DESIGNATION OF DECISION TAKER (S):	Councillor - Executive Member – Finance and Economic Growth
REPORTING OFFICER:	Ian Saxon – Director of Place Caroline Lindsay (High Street Heritage Action Zone Project Officer)
REPORT SUMMARY:	Alongside the main High Street Heritage Action Zone project is a separate Cultural programme. This report seeks permission for the Council to accept the funding from Historic England and act as administrator for the funds on behalf of the Cultural Consortium
RECOMMENDATION:	(i) To accept the cultural consortium funds from Historic England, which includes the requirement to act as the accountable body and authority to make payments as directed; and (ii) To enter into the relevant agreements between the Council and Historic England in relation to this funding.
JUSTIFICATION FOR THE DECISION:	The funding supports the objectives of the High Street heritage Action zone and the Corporate Plan for Tameside to be a great place with a vibrant economy.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS REJECTED (if any):	Do not accept the funding offered but this will have a detrimental impact on opportunities for culture within Stalybridge town centre.
CONSULTEES:	None.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: (Authorised by Section 151 Officer)	The report recommends that the Council acts as the accountable body for the Stalybridge Cultural Consortium grant that will be received from Historic England. The grant sum total of £0.080m will be paid to the Council during the programme period 2021/22 to 2023/24 via a profile that will be agreed with Historic England. The funding will support a cultural programme that will complement the existing Stalybridge High Street Heritage Action Zone project. The Council will act as lead partner of the consortium and will evaluate grant bids received via the 5 partner organisations as stated in section 1.5 to finance initiatives within the cultural programme plan. The Council will pay approved grant values to the respective partner organisation who will also need to

	<p>comply with an associated funding agreement. The Council will only pay approved sums up to the value of grant received via Historic England during the three year programme. The Council will not pay any sums in advance of receipt from Historic England.</p> <p>It is stated that there will be quarterly and annual monitoring reports submitted to Historic England to ensure compliance with the cultural programme plan and that agreed milestones have been delivered.</p> <p>There is no provision within the total £0.080m grant to finance the costs of Council officers that are facilitating / managing this arrangement as the role of the existing Heritage Action Zone programme officer includes a requirement to manage this accountable body process.</p> <p>It is essential that all grants awarded to the consortium partner organisations and the subsequent programmes delivered are in compliance with the grant agreement between the Council and Historic England. Section 11 of the agreement includes clauses that will require repayment of some or all of the grant awarded if the grant is not managed in accordance with the agreed terms.</p>				
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<p>CONFLICT OF INTEREST:</p>	<p>None.</p>				
<p>DISPENSATION GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE ATTACHED:</p>	<p>N/A</p>				
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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Stalybridge town centre was selected as Tameside's focus for the GM Mayor's Town Centre Challenge in 2018. Initial work to plan and progress the delivery of Stalybridge's Town Centre Challenge was co-ordinated by the Stalybridge Town Centre Challenge (STCC) Board and a Stalybridge Town Centre Challenge Action Plan now sets out the aspirations for the town centre.
- 1.2 External funding to deliver on the ambitions of the Stalybridge Town Centre Challenge Action Plan through the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) for Stalybridge was secured following the execution of the Grant Funding Agreement on 16 February 2021.
- 1.3 Alongside the main HAZ project funding is a separate Cultural programme. Historic England in partnership with Arts Council England and The National Lottery Heritage Fund, is offering support and funding for the development and production of cultural programmes and partnerships that will complement the work of the High Streets HAZ Programme. This will take place alongside the capital development works taking place on the high street and will act as a way for people to engage with that building and development work.
- 1.4 On 2 March 2021 Historic England confirmed that the application for the Cultural Consortia Local Grants scheme 2020-2024: for Stalybridge -The Bridge was successful.
- 1.5 This provides a total of £0.080m for the Stalybridge Cultural Consortium an independent body made of five partner organisations; Place Shakers, Global Grooves, Made By Mortals, Action Together and Sarah England Dance School.
- 1.6 The Stalybridge Cultural Consortium will run the 3 year cultural heritage programme made up of four key strands of activity which aim to engage, interrogate and inspire local communities, businesses and partnerships in Stalybridge and deliver their cultural projects until March 2024.

2. FUNDING AGREEMENT

- 2.1 Under the terms of the High Street Heritage Action Zone Programme the funding for the cultural programme must be administered by the Council as the Leading Partner for the High Streets HAZ scheme. The funds are provided as a grant from Historic England. This reflects the organisation and process of the overall High Streets HAZ Programme, and ensures that the financial administration of the grant does not fall to smaller organisations with limited capacity. There is a suggested 3rd party agreement included with the contract which lays out the clauses to be passed on.
- 2.2 The Council will have no decision making powers over the expenditure and there will be a reporting schedule issued by Historic England. The funds will only be paid to the members of the cultural consortium. TMBC will be the lead partner and the bids will be evaluated by the Council to ensure they meet the needs of the Cultural Programme Plan. There is no risk to the Council for any overspend and the money can only be released up to the total expenditure as agreed with Historic England.
- 2.3 There will be a milestones and instalments schedule included with the contract with Historic England with 25% of the total award paid upon submission of the signed agreement. In line with the terms of the High Street Heritage Action zone grant funding agreement there will be quarterly audit progress reports required, as well as an overall yearly report to summarise the activity for that year. Payments will be made annually in quarters 3 to 4 of each financial year.
- 2.4 There is no financial requirement on the Council to provide any funding, and details of the

responsibilities of the Council and protection of the Council to ensure there are no future liabilities during or after this arrangement has ended are provided within the contract. There is no allocation within the funding to support the costs of Council officers facilitating / managing the arrangement as the role of the HAZ officer already includes the requirement to manage this process.

- 2.5 Permission is requested for the Council to accept the funds from Historic England on behalf of the Cultural Consortium and act as the accountable body; for the Council to make payments as directed by Historic England and to sign any agreement between the Council and Historic England.
- 2.6 As Historic England are entering into an agreement with multiple authorities, they wish to have a standard agreement with all and so are not in a position to make significant amendments to the Funding Agreement.

3. RISK

- 3.1 Failure to accept the funds will result in risk to delivery of the cultural programme and resulting in loss of funding up to the value of £0.080m over the remainder of the programme 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 financial years.
- 3.2 Failure to accept the funds on behalf of the Cultural consortium will have reputational risks to the Council and may result in Historic England reviewing the whole programme and potentially consider withdrawing from the agreement altogether.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 As set out at the front of the report.