

North Yorkshire County Council
Business and Environmental Services

Executive Members

25 March 2022

Local Transport Authority Capacity Grant

Report of the Assistant Director – Highways and Transportation

1.0 Purpose Of Report

- 1.1 To seek approval from the Business and Environmental Services (BES) Executive Member for Access in consultation with the BES Corporate Director, the Corporate Director Strategic Resources and the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services to authorise the Corporate Director Strategic Resources to accept the offer of £178,571.43 of revenue funding from the Local Transport Authority Capacity Grant from the Department for Transport.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 On 21 March 2022 the Department for Transport (DfT) notified Local Transport Authorities (LTA) of their revenue funding allocations for 2021/22 under the new Local Authority Capacity Fund with NYCC receiving an allocation of £178,571.43.
- 2.2 The grant is being provided primarily for the preparation for the launch of the new Local Transport Plan (LTP) guidance and to encourage LTAs to update their LTPs in line with guidance by the end of this parliament.
- 2.3 While the grant is being allocated in the financial year 2021/22, NYCC does not need to spend the money in that timeframe, which will make it possible to align spend with the development of our LTP in the 2022/23 financial year. The grant offer Memorandum of Understanding states that it is expected that the money will be spent, and the new LTP in place, by the end of this Parliament.
- 2.4 The intended use of the grant is:
- Recruitment of additional LTA staff to undertake the preparatory work.
 - Training of new and existing staff to boost their capabilities on local transport planning and delivery.
 - Commissioning local transport studies.
 - Commissioning other work to build the evidence base for LTP preparation, including environmental and carbon emissions assessment.
 - Stakeholder engagement and public consultation activities.
- 2.5 The grant can also be used to develop a pipeline of local transport schemes where there is no need for preparation costs or there are no upfront costs for LTP development, because a new LTP is already in place.
- 2.6 The Department for Transport will collate information on the use of this grant, and reserve the right to use that information to inform any future LTA capacity funding.

2.7 The Transport Planning team had already begun reviewing the NYCC LTP in advance of the announcement of this funding and a further report will be submitted in 2022/23 detailing the proposed way forward, including the tasks involved and a timeline for completion of the LTP update.

2.8 Officers are currently considering the potential options available in terms of review of the LTP, and will make recommendations to BES Executive Members once the implications are better understood.

3.0 Next Steps

3.1 The grant acceptance forms must be signed and returned to the DfT no later than 25 March 2022. Grant payments are expected to be made shortly after.

4.0 Equalities

4.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any equality impacts arising from the recommendations. It is the view of officers that at this stage the recommendations do not have an adverse impact on any of the protected characteristics identified in the Equalities Act 2010. A copy of the Equality Impact Assessment screening form is attached as Appendix 1

5.0 Finance

5.1 The Capacity Fund is additional revenue funding of £178,571 to be used as set out in section 2.4 above in line with the grant conditions. It is anticipated to be spent during the 22/23 financial year. No additional match funding is required from NYCC. Any additional funding required to meet the development of the LTP will be met by existing Transport Planning budgets.

5.2 There is a risk that any additional costs must be met by NYCC funds which is being managed by the service.

6.0 Legal

6.1 On the basis that approval pursuant to paragraph 6 (b) of the Executive Members Delegation scheme has been sought, there are no legal implications arising from the acceptance of the Grant nor its expenditure pursuant to the Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules. However, any expenditure of this Grant must comply with the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules and where relevant the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

7.0 Climate Change

7.1 A climate change impact assessment has been carried out, see Appendix 2. There is no negative impact of accepting the funding

8.0 Recommendations

8.1 It is recommended that the BES Executive Member for Access in consultation with the BES Corporate Director, the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources and the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) to authorise the Corporate Director Strategic Resources:

- i. To accept £178,571.43 of revenue funding from the Local Transport Authority Capacity Grant from the Department for Transport.

BARRIE MASON

Assistant Director – Highways and Transportation

Author of Report: Louise Neale

Background Documents: None

Initial equality impact assessment screening form			
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.			
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services		
Service area	Highways and Transportation		
Proposal being screened	Submit a response to the DfT to enable NYCC to access Capacity Funding in 2021/22		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Louise Neale		
What are you proposing to do?	Accept Capacity Funding for 2021/22		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	DfT have allocated an amount to each Local Authority for 2021/22 and have requested NYCC submit their acceptance forms to access this allocation. This funding is intended to be used to update the Local Transport Plan		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No		
Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Sex		X	
Race		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender reassignment		X	
Religion or belief		X	
Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas		X	
People on a low income		X	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		X	

Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	No.			
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No			
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to full EIA:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for decision	No adverse impact on any of the protected characteristics.			
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Barrie Mason			
Date	24 03 22			



Climate change impact assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	Capacity Funding
Brief description of proposal	Accept Grant Funding from DfT for Capacity Funding 2021/22
Directorate	BES
Service area	Highways and Transportation
Lead officer	Louise Neale
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	
Date impact assessment started	24/03/2022

Options appraisal

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

The Capacity fund has been awarded to all Local Transport Authorities that are responsible for Local Transport Plans. NYCC were already planning to review and update the current Local Transport Plan and so this funding has freed up NYCC revenue for other projects

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

There will be an increase to council budgets of £178,571.43.

How will this proposal impact on the environment?					Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?	Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.	Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.
N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.		Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where	No impact (Place a X in the box below where	Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where	Where possible/relevant please include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 		
Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.	Emissions from travel		*				
	Emissions from construction		*				
	Emissions from running of buildings		*				
	Other		*				
Minimise waste : Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic			*				
Reduce water consumption			*				
Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)			*				

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		<p>*</p>				
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>		<p>*</p>				
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>		<p>*</p>				
<p>Other (please state below)</p>		<p>*</p>				

Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

N/A

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

Accepting the recommendation to accept the funding will have no climate change impact.

Accepting the funding will have no direct climate change impact. Delivery of initiatives associated with the completed LTP should encourage increased use of sustainable travel modes which should in turn have a positive impact on climate change.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Louise Neale
Job title	Transport Planning Team Leader
Service area	Highways and Transportation
Directorate	BES
Signature	Louise Neale
Completion date	24/03/2022

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Barrie Mason

Date: 24 03 22