

North Yorkshire Council

Executive Member for Open to Business

26 March 2024

Grant Acceptance of Capacity funding for the  
Long Term Plan for Towns (Scarborough)

Report of the Corporate Director of Community Development

**1.0 Purpose of report**

To recommend that the Executive Member for Open to Business following consultation with the Executive Member for Resources and the Assistant Director Resources authorises the acceptance of £250,000 of grant as part of the revenue funding of the Long Term Plan for Towns awarded to Scarborough for capacity funding.

**2.0 Summary**

2.1 On the 30 September 2023 the Prime Minister announced the opportunity for fifty-five towns across Great Britain to benefit from a £20 million fund towards the Long Term Plan for Towns (LTPT). Scarborough was fortunate to be named as one of the towns. The LTPT has three themes that the fund should contribute to:

- safety and security
- high streets, heritage and regeneration, and
- transport and connectivity.

2.2 North Yorkshire Council is the accountable body for the fund and will deliver the interventions in partnership with the Scarborough Town Board.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) have released an initial £50,000 of capacity funding to help set up the programme and in addition, the next capacity instalment of £200,000 will be released in April 2024, subject to the completing the necessary assurance checks.

**3.0 Background**

3.1 The LTPT provides an exciting opportunity to build on the work of the Town Deal and aims to bring together community leaders, businesses, and local bodies to deliver sustainable, long term improvements for communities. Scarborough will receive a ten-year endowment-style fund, with £20 million of funding and support provided over 10 years, which will enable investment into interventions based on evolving local needs and priorities. The duration of the funding provides a unique opportunity to contribute to a sustained change in

Scarborough's fortunes. The funding will be focused on high streets, heritage and regeneration, transport and public safety and security.

- 3.2 In line with government guidance<sup>1</sup>, Scarborough Town Deal Board is being repurposed and renamed as *Scarborough Town Board* (STB) and will be made up of local community leaders and employers, who will work in partnership with NYC to draw up their town's Long-Term Plan for the next 10 years.
- 3.3 Between now and 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024, we will be working together with our partners to draw up a ten year Vision and a three year Investment Plan that will together layout our shared goals and the initial interventions that will help achieve improvements for residents, local business and visitors to Scarborough.
- 3.4 At the Scarborough Town Board meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024, the area that the LTPT would cover was discussed. It was proposed to extend that area defined by the Office for National Statistics Built-up Urban Area so that it includes Scarborough's continuous urban area and amenity space around the Mere and Oliver's Mount. This will ensure that strategic housing and employment sites were included and sustainable transport routes from south Scarborough to the town centre are within the plan boundary. The proposed area is shown in Appendix A. This area needs to be approved by the DLUHC.
- 3.5 To help form the LTPT, £250,000 of capacity funding is being released early to carry out community engagement activity, commission any reports or studies required and support the activities of the Scarborough Town Board. This paper seeks to gain approval for acceptance of the initial grant.

#### **4.0 Funding and Accountable body**

- 4.1 The funding body for LTPT is the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The Cities and Local Growth Unit, Yorkshire and North East Team will act as regional contacts for the fund. Officers have regular meetings with Cities and Local Growth colleagues who also attend the STB meetings.
- 4.2 North Yorkshire Council is the accountable body for the fund and will direct the interventions in partnership with the Scarborough Town Board. As accountable body NYC will be responsible for ensuring the proper use of public funding.
- 4.3 Controls and project monitoring procedures have been put in place to mitigate the risks. The risk to the initial capacity funding is low. The programme will be controlled through the Growth and Regeneration Capital Board under NYC's corporate governance.

#### **5.0 Acceptance of the capacity funding for the Long Term Plan for Towns**

- 5.1 This paper is restricted to the acceptance of the initial £250,000 of capacity funding. The application and acceptance of the full funding package will be taken at a later date by the Council's Executive.

5.2 Capacity funding will be released in order to:

- support a Town Board
- run community engagement activities
- support the Town Board in developing Long-Term Plans
- provide technical expertise to the Town Board for project development including feasibility studies and business cases,

5.3 An initial £50,000 has been received to start the process and a further £200,000 will be released once the DLUHC have accepted Scarborough Town Board's Chair and membership; governance checks have been completed; and the geography of the LTPT.

5.4 The remaining funding (outside the remit of this paper) will be allocated in equal proportions across the remaining years; first year's (2024/25) allocation released once the Long Term Plan had been agreed (See Appendix B).

## 6.0 Obligations

6.1 As accountable body for the LTPT the council will ensure that good governance of the fund is in place and that adequate processes and partnerships are in available to deliver a successful Long Term Plan for Towns programme. In order for the next £200,000 of capacity funding to be released by DLUHC governance checks were submitted prior to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. The information submitted included.

- Confirm Board Membership in align with the guidance issued<sup>1</sup>
- Confirmation of proposed geography agreed by the Scarborough Town Board (See Appendix A). Capacity funding will not be released until the revised boundary has been agreed.
- Supplementary Documentation
  - Pen picture of the Chair and their suitability for the post
  - Terms of Reference and Code of conduct for Scarborough Town Board
  - Conflicts of Interest Policy and Record for Scarborough Town Board
  - The lead council should provide guidance on:
    - the financial and non-financial interests individuals must declare
    - the process Town Board members must follow for declaring interests
    - the process for requesting an exemption

6.2 We were also required to confirm what community engagement had taken place to date, and any plans to utilise next £200,000 in particular whether it was being used to support local community groups and civic organisations to contribute to the development the Long-Term Plan. The outline budget is provided in Appendix B.

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## **7.0 Resourcing the plan development**

- 7.1 It is acknowledged by the funders that staff resources will be required to support the scheme and this can be funded, within reason, from revenue funding that is provided within the LTPT fund. A resource plan will be prepared in tandem with the Long Term Plan in order that the programme can be adequately resourced. A resourcing plan for LTPT is being established based on the tasks required to establish the plan and administer the programme. Prior to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 60% of a FTE officer post was dedicated to the programme to help with its establishment. Additional support was also supplied from Scarborough Regeneration Team equating to a further two days a week. This was considered sufficient up to the end of March 2023. Staff time for communication, legal and finance support has also been included in the plan.
- 7.2 However, after April 2024, and during the intense engagement period, it is expected that the equivalent of a full time Officer and Principal Officer will be required up to the submission of the required documents due before 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024. Further work is still required to confirm the resourcing levels during delivery period after August 2024.

## **8.0 Contribution to Council Priorities**

- 8.1 The Subject of the report will contribute to the following Corporate Plan objectives:

- Place & Environment
  - A clean, environmentally sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit:
  - A well connected and planned place with good transport links and digital connectivity:
  - Communities are supported and work together to improve their local area.
- Economy
  - Economically sustainable growth that enables people and places to prosper:
  - Culture, heritage, arts and sustainable tourism all play their part in the economic growth of the county:
  - New and existing businesses can thrive and grow.
- People
  - People are free from harm and feel safe and protected.

## **9.0 Alternative Options**

- 9.1 The only alternative option available is to not accept the funding. If this is persuaded it would not be possible for the council to access the full £20 million Long Term Plan for Towns fund and no benefits would be delivered for Scarborough or contribution to the council's plan. This option is not recommended.

## 10.0 Impact on other services/organisations

10.1 As a result of the three themes of the LTPT, the programme has the capacity to impact on several services that have policy and operation interests in these areas. The funding, which is the subject of this report, will initially be used for community engagement and plan development. The table below highlights the service areas that are likely to be involved in the programme through the initial capacity funding.

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Impact from the capacity funding</b>
<b>Finance</b>	General accountancy and costs exercises	An allocation towards staff time is included in the outline budget
<b>Legal</b>	Advice on governance arrangements and subsidy control	An allocation towards staff time is included in the outline budget
<b>Localities</b>	Involvement with community engagement.	Positive contribution towards service objectives. An allocation towards staff time is included in the outline budget.
<b>Communications</b>	Support for Community Engagement activities and publicity	An allocation towards staff time and design work is included in the outline budget
<b>Property</b>	Identification on strategic sites	Potential to contribute towards asset rationalisation.
<b>Transport Policy and Highways</b>	Plan development	Positive contribution towards service objectives.

Other NYC services will be consulted during the stakeholder and community engagement activities to ensure that a plan is developed will maximise benefits for the council and the Scarborough area. The strategy and performance team are helping to coordinate this engagement.

## 11.0 Financial Implications

11.1 This paper concerns the acceptance of £250,000 capacity funding. Which will be used to:

- support the Scarborough Town Board;
- run community engagement activities;
- produce the vision document and investment plan; and
- provide technical expertise to the Town Board for project development including business cases.

11.2 The Council will be the accountable body for this fund and will be responsible for ensuring the proper use of public funding. The financial matters will be subject to the council's financial policies and controls and programme monitoring procedures have been put in place to mitigate the risks.

## **12.0 Legal Implications**

- 12.1 The Council has general powers to undertake regeneration projects pursuant to the general power of competence contained in the Localism Act 2011 as well as the wellbeing provisions in the Local Government Act 2000.
- 12.2 There is no clawback associated with the funding however the Council will be required to continue providing governance support to the Town Board. The Council's Assurance Framework will ensure good governance compliance. The LTPT programme will be required to abide by the Council's policies and practice.

## **13.0 Equalities impact**

- 13.1 An equalities impact screening has been carried out and concluded that there is no adverse equalities impact from the recommended decision.

## **14.0 Climate Change Implications**

- 14.1 Sustainability will be a cross cutting theme in the programme. There is not expected to be a significant impact on climate change due to the acceptance of the capacity funding. All projects will be required to undergo an environmental impact screening as part of the approval process.

## **15.0 Policy Implications**

- 15.1 The acceptance of the capacity funding has no policy implications.
- 15.2 The capacity funding will be used to develop a Vision document and Investment Plan for the Scarborough urban area. This will contribute towards the Scarborough Blue Print, Economic Growth Strategy and the council's corporate plan. The Vision and Investment Plan will be presented to the council for consideration prior to being submitted to the DLUHC,

## **16.0 Risks Management**

- 16.1 As this decision relates to the initial £250,000 capacity funding only, the risk to the council is low. There is no mechanism in place for claw back of the funds.
- 16.2 There is a reputational risk if we fail to meet our obligations. However this is mitigated by adequate resources and planning for the development phase.
- 16.3 The programme will fall within in the remit of the Communities Directorate and follow the council's programme assurance procedures.

## **17.0 Human Resources Implications**

- 17.1 Staff resources will be required to support the scheme. Capacity funding is provided within the LTPT fund. A resource plan will be prepared in tandem with the Long Term Plan in order that the programme can be adequacy resourced

## **18.0 ITC Implications**

- 18.1 Part of the capacity funding will be used to build a consultation platform and design a new web page for the programme.

## **19.0 Community Safety Implications**

- 19.1 Safety and Security is a key theme in the LTPT. A senior member of North Yorkshire police will be invited to join the STB and Safety and Security interventions will be considered.

## **20.0 Conclusion**

- 20.1 The acceptance of the capacity funding will facilitate securing £20 million of investment for Scarborough which will enable local people to come together to make positive changes for their town.
- 20.2 The LTPT will contribute the regeneration aspirations council helping to deliver the Scarborough Blueprint, the North Yorkshire Economic Growth Strategy and corporate plan.
- 20.3 There is very little risk to the council from this decision as it relates to accepting the initial £250,000 capacity funding only.

## **21.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 21.1 The recommendation to accept the funding will enable the council in partnership with the Scarborough Town Board to produce the Vision Document and Investment Plan which are required by DLUHC as part of the LTPT. Without accepting the capacity funding the council would lose the opportunity of securing £20 million of investment for Scarborough

## **22.0 Recommendation**

- 22.1 That the Executive Member for Open to Business following consultation with the Executive Member for Resources and the Assistant Director Resources authorises the acceptance of £250,000 of grant as part of the revenue funding of the Long Term Plan for Towns awarded to Scarborough for capacity funding

Author of Report: Helen Jackson, Head of Regeneration (North and East)

Appendix A – Proposed Plan Boundary

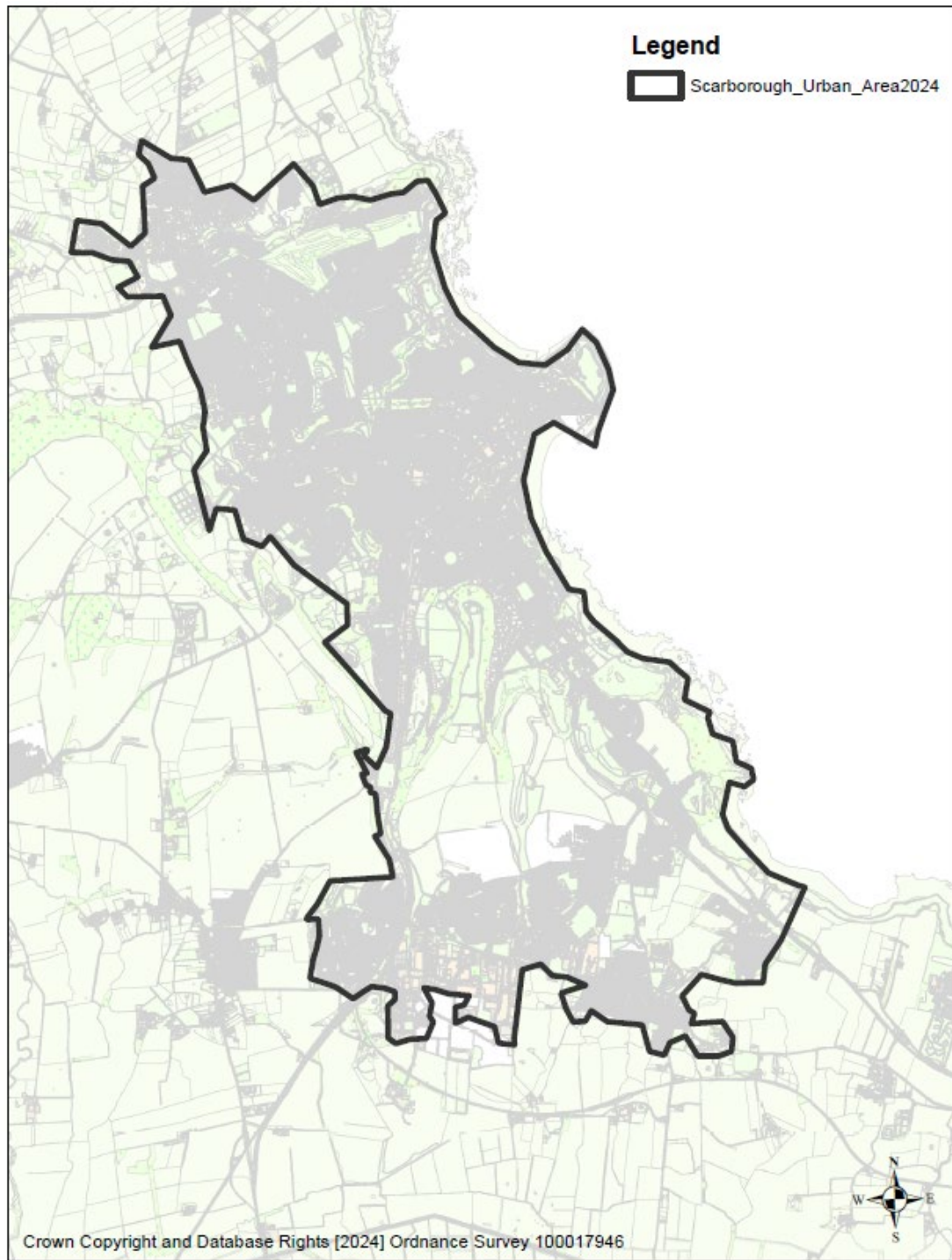
Appendix B - Outline budget as submitted to the DLUHC prior 1st April 2024

Appendix C – APPENDIX C: Financial Profile for LTPT

Appendix D – Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix E – Climate Impact Assessment

## APPENDIX A: Proposed plan boundary





## APPENDIX B: Outline budget as submitted to the DLUHC prior 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

Outline budget for capacity funding – including initial £50,000 and next tranche £200,000		
Programme support and management,	NYC programme management, secretariate and regeneration officer support	£ 71,000
	Legal, Finance and Communications	£ 25,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£ 96,000</b>
Consultation materials	Printed and physical materials	£ 15,000
	On-line (web site, online survey etc)	£ 2,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£ 17,000</b>
Engagement events and community capacity building	NYC facilitated events (including street markets, community conversations, facilitated workshops and open events)	£ 25,000
	Community and stakeholder run events (including Business Breakfast, voluntary group sessions, Cultural Organisation Engagement Session, workshops organised by groups and organisations listed above)	£ 32,000
	Future engagement and capacity building to enable local groups to delivery Investment Plan activities	£ 25,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£ 82,000</b>
Plan forming	Evidence base and data analysis	£ 5,000
	Finance and economic appraisal	£ 10,000
	Business case development	£ 30,000
	Graphic design and printing	£ 10,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>£ 55,000.00</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 250,000.00</b>

## APPENDIX C: Financial Profile for LTPT

in 000's	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	Total
Total RDEL per place	50	449	423	449	449	449	449	454	467	467	467	4,574
Total CDEL per place		491	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	14,936
Total amount per place												19,510

<b>Appendix D - Initial equality impact assessment screening form</b> 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.		
<b>Directorate</b>	Communities Directorate	
<b>Service area</b>	Regeneration	
<b>Proposal being screened</b>	Acceptance of £250,00 Capacity Funding	
<b>Officer(s) carrying out screening</b>	Helen Jackson	
<b>What are you proposing to do?</b>	The council will accept £250,00 capacity funding which will enable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support a Town Board</li> <li>• run community engagement</li> <li>• provide technical expertise to the Town Board for project development including feasibility studies and business cases.</li> <li>• support the Town Board in developing Long-Term Plans</li> </ul>	
<b>Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?</b>	The Scarborough has been awarded Long Term Plan for Towns funding. The proposal aims to create a sustainable and vibrant future for Scarborough by engaging the community in the decision-making process, ensuring that development strategies address key areas such as safety, high street heritage, regeneration, and transport – the LTPT funding themes.  In order to achieve the desired outcomes and release the funding, the council in partnership with the Scarborough Town Board must produce a Vision document and Investment Plan. The capacity funding will fund the required activity.	
<b>Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources?</b> Please give details.	The initial capacity funding does not involve a significant commitment or removal of resources  However, it will be used to secure £20 million of funding that has been awarded to Scarborough over 10 years for improvements to safety and security; regeneration and the high street; and connectivity. NYC are the accountable body and supplying staff resource to support the programme.	
<b>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC's additional agreed characteristics</b> As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics?</li> <li>• Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?</li> <li>• Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to?</li> </ul> <b>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 directorate representative for advice if you are in any doubt.</b>		
<b>Protected characteristic</b>	<b>Potential for adverse impact</b>	

	Yes	No	Don't know/No info available
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual orientation		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Religion or belief		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	
Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
People in rural areas		✓	
People on a low income		✓	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		✓	
Are from the Armed Forces Community		✓	
<b>Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts</b> (for example, disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	<p>The Long Term Plan covers all urban areas of Scarborough including areas of deprivation. The programme will seek to improve equality.</p> <p>This decision relates to the appointment of the chair and will not have a direct impact.</p>		
<b>Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (for example, partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics?</b> Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	<p>The Long Term Plan is delivered in partnership with stakeholders and has a strong community engagement. The programme is likely to deal with organisations that support the people with protected characteristics.</p> <p>This decision to appoint of the chair will not involve any other parties.</p>		
<b>Decision (Please tick one option)</b>	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:
<b>Reason for decision</b>	<p>The decision is restricted to the acceptance of the capacity funding and therefore, at this stage, does not have any impact on inequality.</p> <p>Other Long Term Plan activities may have a greater impact and a separate screening will be done.</p>		
<b>Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)</b>			
<b>Date</b>			

## Appendix E: Initial Climate Change Impact Assessment (Form created August 2021)

The intention of this document is to help the council to gain an initial understanding of the impact of a project or decision on the environment. This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. Dependent on this initial assessment you may need to go on to complete a full Climate Change Impact Assessment. The final document will be published as part of the decision-making process.

If you have any additional queries, which are not covered by the guidance please email [climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk)

<b>Title of proposal</b>	Long Term Plan for Towns (LTPT) Capacity Funding for Scarborough
<b>Brief description of proposal</b>	The council will accept £250,00 capacity funding which will enable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• support a Town Board</li><li>• run community engagement</li><li>• provide technical expertise to the Town Board for project development including feasibility studies and business cases.</li><li>• support the Town Board in developing Long-Term Plans</li></ul>
<b>Directorate</b>	Communities
<b>Service area</b>	Economic Development, Regeneration, Tourism Services
<b>Lead officer</b>	Helen Jackson
<b>Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment</b>	Helen Jackson, Head of Regeneration

The chart below contains the main environmental factors to consider in your initial assessment – choose the appropriate option from the drop-down list for each one.

Remember to think about the following;

- Travel
- Construction
- Data storage
- Use of buildings
- Change of land use
- Opportunities for recycling and reuse

Environmental factor to consider	For the council	For the county	Overall
Greenhouse gas emissions	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Waste	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Water use	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Pollution (air, land, water, noise, light)	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Resilience to adverse weather/climate events (flooding, drought etc)	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Ecological effects (biodiversity, loss of habitat etc)	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Heritage and landscape	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions

If any of these factors are likely to result in a negative or positive environmental impact then a full climate change impact assessment will be required. It is important that we capture information about both positive and negative impacts to aid the council in calculating its carbon footprint and environmental impact.

<b>Decision (Please tick one option)</b>	Full CCIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full CCIA:	
<b>Reason for decision</b>	<p>The acceptance of the capacity funding will be used for local engagement activities which will have minimal impact on climate change.</p> <p>Sustainability will a cross cutting theme in the LTPT programme.</p> <p>A further screening exercise will be done as part of the approval process for the Vision document and Investment Plan.</p>			
<b>Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)</b>				
<b>Date</b>				