



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

19/24
Key Decision
via Urgency

Notice of KEY Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Local London ESF Employment and Skills Access to Work Grant: Request to be part of a "one-off" amalgamated eight authority bid, with match-funding from individual Authorities
Cabinet Member:	The Leader
SLT Lead:	Jane West, Chief Operating Officer
Report Author and contact details:	Sandy Hamberger Assistant Director of Policy, Performance and Community t 01708 434 506 m 07970 204 783 e sandy.hamberger@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	<p>This decision supports the delivery of the Administrations agreed 2019/20 Corporate Plan priorities, specifically the Opportunities Priority: Making Life Better, by supporting the growth of employment and skills.</p> <p>This is underpinned by the Employment and Skills Plan and establishment of the Havering Works Brokerage Service.</p> <p>This decision is in line with the Plan and three priorities, which will see the Brokerage Service, grow through the desired external funding secured through Investment Opportunities.</p>
Financial summary:	<p>This decision will enable Havering Council the opportunity to bid for external Investment Grant Funding: £509k.</p> <p>This will require a commitment from Havering Council to match fund this amount over a three year period. This will be available from future sources such as section 106 agreements and will be underwritten by the Business Reserve.</p>

Key Executive Decision

Reason decision is Key	This is a Key Decision due to the match-funding element and total investment exceeding the £500k threshold over the three year period, and potential grant income.
Date notice given of intended decision:	<p>7th May 2019, decision required 9th May 2019.</p> <p>Urgent Decision requested due to the timescales of the ESF grant being notified: 23rd April and out of the Councils control..</p>

Key Executive Decision

Relevant OSC:	<p>The Chair of the OSC will be asked for their approval for this as an Urgent Executive Decision.</p> <p>Once implemented, the Towns & Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee will be the responsible subcommittee, through its Social and Economic Regeneration remit.</p>
Is it an urgent decision?	<p>Yes</p> <p>This is an urgent decision required for the 9th May.</p> <p>The reason for the urgent decision is that this ESF Grant only became available on the 23rd April, for the 9th May 2019. amalgamated Local London , eight-borough bid and is outside of the Councils control. This required suitable match-funded opportunities to be identified and worked up and an outline request submitted to Local London by interested boroughs by midnight 3rd May 2019.</p>
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	<p>Yes, the deadline of the 9th May 2019 is required to enable a Local London eight borough amalgamated bid . Call-in would prevent this from happening.</p>

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering
Places making Havering
Opportunities making Havering
Connections making Havering

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Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

The reason for the urgent decision is that this ESF Grant only became available on the 23rd April, for the 9th May amalgamated eight-borough bid. This required suitable match-funded opportunities to be identified and worked up and an outline request submitted to Local London by interested boroughs by midnight 03/05/2019.

The Havering Works Employment and Skills “Brokerage” Service is new and was launched in October 2018 and is currently in receipt of other match-funding grants. This has required new “initiatives” to be rapidly identified, that are part of longer term decisions, e.g. planning 106 decisions. Additionally participation targets and projected outcomes have been developed in support of the grant money available.

It should be stressed, this is not an unplanned report-it is an action taken in response to a recent opportunity becoming available, that has been embraced and turned-around in a short timescale-to ensure Havering has an opportunity to be considered for one-off grant monies, that will deliver against the administrations priority outcome in the 2019/20 Opportunities “Making Life Better” ambition.

The bid will support two key priority participant areas:

- 1 Access to employment for jobseekers and inactive people and promote active inclusion
- 2 Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning

If the bid is successful, funding will provide a projected six-hundred Havering residents with a bespoke job brokerage package not otherwise available and benefiting from the Havering Ambition.

Recommendation

The Leader is asked to:

Agree this urgent decision for 9th May required to bid for one-off ESF Investment monies and to agree that the match-funding element of £509k (spread over three years) required from the Council is underwritten from the Business Risk Reserve.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Under Para 2.1 Part 3 of the Constitution Cabinet is asked to approve the recommendations in line with item

“q) To approve applications for the submission of bids for grants and other financial assistance which require the provision of additional finance or match funding or are likely to lead to residual costs or implications for the Council or where the amount of the grant application exceeds £500,000.”

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Key Executive Decision

This is an Executive Decision due to the match-funding and grant application exceeding £500k.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The recommendation is in line with the 2019/20 Corporate Plan and Employment and Skills Plan, to seek external investment to help Havering residents into work and improve their life chances through targeted and individual support not available elsewhere.

Not bidding, which is the alternative recommendation would mean the Council loses an opportunity to meet its corporate priorities.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

No formal consultation required.

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Sandy Hamberger

Designation: Assistant Director Policy, Performance and Community

Signature:

Date:

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 6.1 The Council has a general power of competence under s1 Localism Act 2011, which gives Local Authorities the power to do anything an individual can do, subject to any statutory constraints on the Council's powers. The recommendations in this report are in keeping with this power.
- 6.2 In line with the Council's constitution, approval is sought from Cabinet for the submission of the bid. The funding is state aid compliant as the public funding is to be used for public provision.
- 6.3 Should the bid be successful, a further report will be required where a decision is required to enter into the funding agreement and that report will outline any further legal implications. Acceptance of funding will be subject to a number of conditions which are likely to include clawback and withdrawal of funding in certain circumstances. The substance of these conditions is not presently known. The Council is not contractually binding itself in making the bid in line with the recommendations in this report.
- 6.4 There will be a number of financial and legal implications arising from any decision to proceed with the programmes outlined in the bids.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The 2018-2021 Employment and Skills Plan approved by Cabinet in 2018 was commissioned by the external company Rocket Science". This saw a small core budget agreed, together with an assumption that external investment would be leveraged going forward to fund and grow the Havering Works and Employment Brokerage Service.

This bid if agreed and successful would see £1.018m available over the next 3-4 years, which is in line with the plans ambition.

The Council must commit upfront to underwrite the match-funding element as a condition of application. The Councils £509k element will be met through core budgets, future section 106 monies and underwritten by Further funding options.

The risk to the Council is that without the external funding, the Council will either have to fund the whole amount itself, seek other external funding sources or stop /reduce the service.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

There are no HR implications or risks that impact directly on the Councils workforce

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

A separate EA is not required, priority groups were identified as part of the Employment and Skills plan EA consideration and as part of the Local London and ESF grant considerations.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The ESF Grant application form.
Havering Councils 2019/20 Corporate Plan
Havering Councils Employment and Skills Plan 2018-2021

Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Delete as applicable

~~Proposal NOT agreed because~~

Details of decision maker

Signed



Name:

Clr. Damian White
Leader of the Council

Cabinet Portfolio held:

CMT Member title:

Head of Service title

Other manager title:

Date:

8th May 2019

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Debra Marlow, Principal Committee Officer in Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on 9/5/2019

Signed J.P. R.R.