

Not Confidential

Decision Notice From: **Leader Decision**

Date: **6 July 2022**

Title: **LEVELLING UP FUND (LUF) ROUND 2
SUBMISSION:**

Wards Affected: All

Key Decision: **Yes** Implementation Date: **End of July**

Urgent Decision: **Yes** – The deadline for officers to submit a bid for the Levelling Up Fund (LUF) as part of the round two window was midday on 6th July 2022. Due to national computer issues this deadline has moved to the 2nd August 2022. The decision is urgent as any delay caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution the Chairman of the Council has agreed that the decision proposed is a reasonable in the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.

DECISION:

- 1. Note purpose of the Levelling Up Fund and its requirements;**
- 2. Note the engagement with Members in relation to the Levelling Up bid – via Executive Board Briefing and a Reserved Member Day Briefing and comments raised as outcomes from that engagement;**
- 3. Agree to support the submission to the Round 2 bid, and its general direction of travel and authorise Officers to finalise and submit the bid by the Government deadline;**
- 4. To delegate authorisation to the Deputy Chief Executive – Growth; in consultation with the Deputy Leader; to make any necessary amendments to the Councils proposed bid to enable the best possible submission to be made.**

Reason for the Decision:

To enable the Council to make a robust submission to Government through the LUF round 2 process, and to enable the Council to demonstrate support and commitment to the projects which form part of the proposal.

Alternative options considered:

Do Nothing – This would involve the Council not making a bid, and therefore not being able to access the up to £20m available.

Amended proposals – There is potential for other alternative proposals to be considered, however, this has been discounted owing to the time pressures for the submission as set out in this report. The proposals have been developed in partnership with our external advisors to enable the Council to put forward a robust bid, significant changes/deviations to the approach would not be possible, whilst allowing the bid deadline to be met. Alternatives could however be considered for future LUF rounds.

Conflict of interest declared:

None

Dispensations granted in respect of a conflict of interest:

N/A