



**'ACTIVE HINCKLEY' SCHEME**  
**REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE – COMMUNITY DIRECTION**

**WARDS AFFECTED: HINCKLEY LOCALITY AND SURROUNDING AREA.**

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1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform Council of a new externally funded cycling and walking scheme called 'Active Hinckley.' The report provides details of the £110,000 scheme, which will be externally funded via Department of Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). Officers from Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council have worked in close partnership with Officers from Leicestershire County Council (LCC) to secure this funding. In accordance with the Authority's Financial Procedure rules, Officers require approval for the creation of a new budget for the 'Active Hinckley' scheme for 2014/15.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That, Council agrees to the following;

- 2.1 Welcomes the securing of this external £110,000 grant aid funding for the 'Active Hinckley' scheme.
- 2.2 Approves the creation of income and expenditure budgets of £45,000 for 2014/15 and £65,000 for 2015/16, to be funded from the external grant via Department of Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund, which will be issued by Leicestershire County Council.

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

- 3.1 Members will be aware that Hinckley is the current focus for the Local Transport Plan 3 in Leicestershire, whereby a number of capital infrastructure improvements are being delivered in the Hinckley urban area.
- 3.2 HBBC Officers have worked closely with LCC, who submitted a £65,000 complementary revenue application to Department of Transport (DfT) for LSTF for the wider programme 'Smarter travel for Business' that focuses on a number of interventions for the Hinckley Area.
- 3.3 This scheme complements the work being coordinated and delivered as part of the Sport & Physical Activity Commissioning, funded via Public Health and LCC.

4. **ACTIVE HINCKLEY SCHEME**

- 4.1 As part of the bid, HBBC provided proposals for the 'Active Hinckley' project which falls under the theme 'Getting to work and training' and was initially planned for delivery commencing in April 2015 for a one year period. The scheme in essence will appoint Active Travel Development Officer(s), on a fixed term basis, with a working budget for the delivery of a number of measures including work with small, medium and large businesses to develop a package of Active Travel and sustainable travel interventions for their workforces. In simple terms, encouraging residents and employees to utilise the new cycling and footpath networks being installed as part of the LTP 3 project.

- 4.2 LCC have informed HBBC on 14/8/14 that the LSTF application was approved and that DfT would like to provide additional funding to accelerate the Active Hinckley project to commence in September 14/15, thus extending the project by 6 months. The funding associated with accelerating this programme is an additional £45,000.
- 4.3 Hence, Officers are seeking the support of Council to establish a supplementary budget of £45,000 in respect of this grant funding for 2014/15.
- 4.4 The grant funding of £65,000 the Council receives in 2015/16 will be incorporated as part of the normal budget preparation process.
- 4.5 Conditions of the funding will include the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Leicestershire County Council. A project team, led by Cultural Services will be set up to oversee progress of the project against agreed targets as set out in the project action plan.
- 4.6 Performance updates will be provided to various partnerships including Town Centre, Health & Wellbeing and to Members.
- 4.7 It should be noted that all costs associated with this scheme will be met via the external funding grant.

5. EXPECTED BENEFITS

- 5.1 The scheme is anticipated to achieve the following outcomes:
- Improve health & wellbeing to employees who change their mode of transport to the work place
  - Reduce sickness absenteeism and increase productivity at these targeted businesses
  - Reduce the carbon emissions into the environment
  - Increase the number of residents who walk or cycle
  - Positively promote cycle safety
  - Reduce pressure on town centre car parking requirements
  - Encourage families to utilise the new infra-structure

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AQ

A total of four supplementary budgets are needing to be created over two years as follows:

	2014/2015	2015/2016	TOTALS
<b>Income Budget</b>	<b>(45,000)</b>	<b>(65,000)</b>	<b>(110,000)</b>
<b>Expenditure Budget</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>110,000</b>

All costs associated with the scheme will be met from the grant funding. It is envisaged, the 2014/2015 element will also be used for the appointment of FTE Active Travel Development Officer(s) (potentially mid range at grade 5).

Due to the amount of grant funding, in accordance with the financial procedure rules, this is requiring full Council approval.

## 7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS EH

A Memorandum of Understanding is not a legally enforceable agreement but just documents an agreement between the parties. They are commonly used in relation to such projects but do offer limited protection. The agreement will be looked at by the legal department prior to being signed on behalf of the Council.

Other conditions attached to the funding will need to be complied with and targets achieved in order to ensure that it is properly applied and cannot be reclaimed.

## 8. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This project will assist the Council in achieving the following key priorities:

- Improve health and wellbeing and sustain economic growth
- Reduce our impact on the environment
- Accessible services for all and to value partnerships

## 9. CONSULTATION

Officers will liaise with stakeholders such as local cycling clubs and walking groups in developing this scheme.

## 10. RISK IMPLICATIONS

None specific for this report.

## 11. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

The development will be of benefit to residents of the Borough that either live or work in the locality. Although the wider LSTF programme has a specific focus on Hinckley, it is envisaged that the Active Hinckley element will be of benefit to people wider than this locality.

## 12. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications

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Background papers: None  
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