

To: Councillor Neil Stock OBE, Leader of the Council

From: Laura Richardson, Economic Growth Officer

Cc: Lee Heley, Interim Corporate Director – Projects Delivery

Cc: Mike Carran, Assistant Director, Economic Growth & Leisure

Cc: Barbara Pole, Economic Growth and Enterprise Manager

Cc: Rebecca Bromley, Regeneration Project Lead

Date: 23rd March 2023

Dear Councillor Stock,

Clacton Civic Quarter Levelling Up Fund Bid

This letter follows the Cabinet decision on Friday 17th March 2023 to endorse Tendring District Council (TDC)'s acceptance of £19.96m through the Levelling Up Fund (LUF).

It was announced on January 19th 2023 that TDC's bid to round 2 of the LUF for Clacton Town Centre, the 'Clacton Civic Quarter', was successful and was awarded £19,958,224. The bid was developed in partnership with Essex County Council (ECC).

Two projects were included in the bid:

- Redevelopment of the Carnarvon House site to provide 28 new homes, remodelled car parking, electric charging points, and start-up business units, with the potential for public sector use.
- Redevelopment of the existing ECC library site to make provision for a new library and Adult Community Learning centre with additional flexible office space as part of a public sector hub. This project is being led by ECC.

Memorandum of Understanding

To accept the funds, TDC needs to accept a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provided by Government. The MOU is accepted via Section 151 Officer sign off and acceptance must be returned to Government by 28th March 2023.

Next steps

It is acknowledged that, in the Cabinet Report agreed 17th June 2022, the intended governance route included Cabinet and Full Council approval before contracting with Government. In light of the timescale required for acceptance of the MOU, this concurrence recommends acceptance of the allocation via signature of the MOU but does not seek to secure approval on decisions on specific spend. This concurrence therefore allows the administrative aspects of the project to continue before a detailed report is brought to Cabinet and Full Council in summer 2023. Spending of the funding will therefore be allocated separately via a Key Decision.

It is also noted that, as part of the 2023 Spring Budget on 15th March 2023, TDC's bid for support for Dovercourt through the LUF programme was announced as successful. A separate concurrence and associated governance will be submitted for this workstream as further detail comes forward regarding this allocation, and the MOU this concurrence refers to applies to the Clacton Civic Quarter bid only.

If you could, by way of a completed form (below) or by return email, indicate your consent for the Section 151 Officer to agree to the MOU, I would be most grateful.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me to discuss any aspect further before granting your formal consent.

Kind regards,

Laura Richardson

Economic Growth Officer

Tendring District Council

Phone: 01255 686355

Email: lrichardson@tendringdc.gov.uk

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Date: _____

Dear Laura,

Clacton Civic Quarter Levelling Up Fund Bid

Thank you for your letter dated 23rd March 2023 requesting my approval for the Section 151 Officer to sign and agree to the MOU with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities with regard to the successful Clacton Levelling UP Fund bid.

I agree/ do not agree with the acceptance of the MOU.

I understand that spending of the funding will be allocated via a Key Decision in Summer 2023.

Kind regards,

Councillor Neil Stock OBE

Leader of Tendring District Council