

Report to:	Cabinet	
Date:	5 June 2019	
Title:	Local Employment and Training Grants Programme	
Report of:	Ian Fitzpatrick, Director of Regeneration and Planning	
Cabinet member:	Cllr David Tutt	
Ward(s):	All	
Purpose of report:	To consider Local Employment and Training Grants Programme	
Decision type:	Key decision	
Officer recommendation(s):	To approve a Local Employment and Training Grants Programme utilising S106 monitoring contributions	
Reasons for recommendations:	To support the aims and objectives of Local Employment and Training Supplementary Planning Document	
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Eastbourne Borough Council's Local Employment and Training Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) secures local labour agreements on qualifying sites as part of development proposals. The local labour agreement process attracts monitoring monies from Developers to support monitoring and local labour initiatives as part of the legal Section 106 agreement. The monies are secured to assist the recruitment of local residents in the Borough of Eastbourne in the construction and operation of developments and to encourage the sustainability and economic growth of small, medium enterprises (SMEs) in East Sussex.
- 1.2 In line with their collection the monies should be used for the benefit of Eastbourne residents and to support SMEs in East Sussex. The Council intends to enhance local labour initiatives using such funding which will enhance the existing SPD.

2 Proposal

- 2.1 To seek approval to use a percentage (to be determined by the Cabinet Member or delegated to the Head of Regeneration) of the local labour contributions to support a Local Employment and Training Grants Programme.

3 Outcome expected and performance management

- 3.1 To deliver employment, education and training initiatives not currently funded/delivered in the Borough and to encourage the sustainability and development of local SMEs.
- 3.2 A Grants Panel consisting of representation from a Councillor/Head of Planning Committee, Head of Regeneration, Regeneration Lawyer, Strategy and Partnership Lead (Growth and Prosperity) and a Regeneration team member will be established to review applications and score against the objectives of the grants programme. Performance management and monitoring will be as outlined in the guidance documentation.

4 Consultation

- 4.1 Informal consultation and observation within the Council (Strategy and Partnership Lead (Thriving Communities), Head of Planning Committee, Head of Planning, Corporate Management Team, Regeneration Project Manager and with local partners has attracted positive feedback. Comments and observations have been incorporated within the design of the proposed programme.

5 Corporate plan and council policies

- 5.1 The Local Employment and Training Grants Programme has been developed to support the Local Employment and Training SPD, adopted 16 November 2016 which links to Policy EL1 (Economy & Employment Land) of the Eastbourne Employment Land Local Plan (ELLP). The ELLP guides job growth and economic development in Eastbourne up to 2027 as well as identifying an appropriate supply of land for future employment development, in order to achieve a sustainable economy and make Eastbourne a town where people want to live and work. The ELLP forms part of the development plan for Eastbourne together with other planning policy documents such as the Eastbourne Core Strategy Local Plan. The Core Strategy's key spatial objectives 2 and 4 focus on sustainable growth and the local economy both identified as essential to the town's economic prosperity and sustainable economy.

6 Business case and alternative option(s) considered

- 6.1 It is important to note that the use of monitoring contributions to support wider employment and training initiatives is in keeping with the existing SPD.

It would not be possible to explore alternative activities that would not directly benefit local people or East Sussex SMEs. The use of monies for activities not in accordance with their collection as defined in the Section 106 agreement was considered inappropriate.

7 Financial appraisal

- 7.1 Funds are available to support the Local Employment and Training Grants Programme. The balance of Employment Monitoring s.106 monies at 31st March 2019 is estimated to be £100,000 after the deduction of Project Officer costs. This sum could enable the provision of up to 20 grants.

8 Legal implications

- 8.1 The relevant s.106 agreements do not contain repayment clauses. It is unlikely that such a term would be implied and it is therefore appropriate to apply these monies to closely related initiatives.
- 8.2 The legal power to take this action is S.111 Local Government Act 1972 – This is a general power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.
- 8.3 The Local Employment and Training Grants Programme policy, application and guidance documentation has been developed with guidance from the Council's Regeneration lawyer.

Legal Implications on the Planning Law Aspects and General Powers provided by JCS 22.01.19 07961-EBC-CEC and updated 21.05.19

9 Risk management implications

- 9.1 The following risks may arise:

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
Developer could try to re-claim unspent monies	Low	High	Proposal for grants programme will maximise outcomes from local labour initiatives.
Confusion over application process for grants programme	Low	High	Clear guidance and processes have been produced and are contained within an Appendix to this report.
Funded initiatives duplicate existing provision	Medium	High	Clear guidance has been produced to advise bidders and for assessment process.

- 10.1 The Local Employment and Training Grants Programme policy, guidance and application was circulated to the Council's Equality and Fairness Planning Group and no comments were made, therefore no further action taken/considerations needed.

11 Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Local Employment and Training Grants Programme Policy
- Appendix 2 – Local Employment and Training Grants Programme Guidance
- Appendix 3 – Local Employment and Training Grants Programme Application Form

12 Background papers

The background papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

- Eastbourne Borough Council Local Employment and Training Supplementary Planning Document
<https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-guidance-and-supplementary-planning-documents/?assetdet8f28ea61-4754-47ba-9d0d-c22b829ea8f9=257574>