

## Cabinet

- Date and Time - **Monday 8 April 2024 – 6:30pm**
- Venue - **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea**
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### **Councillors appointed to the Committee:**

Councillor D.B. Oliver (Leader), C.A. Bayliss, T.J.C. Byrne, S.J. Coleman, K.M. Field, A.K. Jeeawon, T.M. Killeen (MBE), R.A. McCourt, A. Rathbone Ariel and H.L. Timpe

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## **AGENDA**

### **1. MINUTES**

To authorise the Leader to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2024 as a correct record of the proceedings.

### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **3. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

To consider such other items as the Leader decides are urgent and due notice of which has been given to the Head of Paid Service by 9:00am on the day of the meeting.

### **4. URGENT DECISIONS**

The Leader to give details of those reports that have been referred to the Chairman of the Council to consider designating as urgent, in accordance with Rule 17 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules contained within Part 4 of the Council Constitution, and to which the call-in procedure will not therefore apply.

### **5. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

To receive any disclosures by Members of disclosable pecuniary interests / other registerable interests / non-registerable interests in matters on the agenda and the nature of any interest and details of any dispensations obtained. Members are reminded of the need to repeat their declaration immediately prior to the commencement of the item in question.

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At the discretion of the Leader, the order of the items set out in the agenda may be varied

**This agenda can be made available in large print, Braille, audiotape/CD or in another language upon request.**

For all enquiries, please contact [julie.hollands@rother.gov.uk](mailto:julie.hollands@rother.gov.uk)

**Rother District Council putting residents at the heart of everything we do.**

6. **PEASMARSH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2021-2028** (Pages 3 - 6)
7. **TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION PURCHASES** (Pages 7 - 18)
8. **LONG TERM PLAN FOR TOWNS FUNDING FOR BEXHILL IN 2024-25** (Pages 19 - 26)
9. **LEVELLING UP PARTNERSHIP FUNDING AND PROJECTS** (Pages 27 - 34)

Lorna Ford  
Chief Executive

Agenda Despatch Date: 27 March 2024

**Rother District Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	8 April 2024
<b>Title:</b>	Peasmarsh Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2028
<b>Report of:</b>	Ben Hook, Director – Place and Climate Change
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Killeen
<b>Ward(s):</b>	Peasmarsh
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To confirm the result of the recent Neighbourhood Plan Referendum for the parish of Peasmarsh.
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Non-Key
<b>Officer</b>	
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<b>Recommendation to COUNCIL:</b> That the Peasmarsh Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2028 incorporating the Examiner's modifications, as presented to local Referendum, be 'made' with immediate effect and form part of the Council's Development Plan.
<b>Reasons for Recommendations:</b>	To enable Rother District Council to "make" the Plan so that it will become part of the statutory 'development plan' for the area.

**Introduction**

1. Following a successful local Referendum result in relation to the use of the Peasmarsh Parish Neighbourhood Plan (PNP) to help in the determination of planning applications in the Parish Neighbourhood Area, this report recommends that it be formally 'made' (adopted) and become part of the statutory Development Plan for the area.

**Background**

2. Peasmarsh Parish Council, as the Qualifying Body (QB), applied for Peasmarsh Parish to be designated a Neighbourhood Area under Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The area was designated on 25 March 2021.
3. Following consultation on a draft (pre-submission) Plan, the PNP was submitted to the District Council in February 2023. The PNP and its supporting documents were publicised and representations invited. The period of formal consultation ran from 17 February to 31 March 2023. Independent examination followed and the Examiner, Mr John Slater, held a Hearing in September 2023 to discuss certain issues he had identified in the Plan.

4. The examiner published his report in November 2023, concluding that the PNP, subject to certain modifications proposed in his report, meets the basic conditions as set out in legislation, is compatible with Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and could therefore proceed to local referendum.
5. On 19 January 2024, the District Council resolved that the Neighbourhood Plan – Submission Plan (as amended in line with the Examiner’s proposed modifications) should proceed to local Referendum. This decision and a revised version of the PNP, agreed by Peasmarsh Parish Council, was published on Rother District Council’s website. The ‘referendum area’ was determined to be Peasmarsh Parish as recommended by the Examiner.

## Referendum

6. A Referendum was held on 29 February 2024. The referendum question was:

*‘Do you want Rother District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Peasmarsh to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area?’*

7. The results of the referendum were:

Yes = 224  
No = 40  
Unmarked or Void = 0

Number of Votes = 264  
Turnout = 27%

## Conclusion

8. Paragraph 38A(4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to ‘make’ a Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting in a referendum have voted in favour of the Plan being used to help to decide planning applications in the area. This needs to be achieved within eight weeks of the referendum result.
9. The Council has also assessed and concluded that the Plan, including its preparation, does not breach and would not otherwise be incompatible with any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998). This includes compliance with the more recent basic condition regarding compliance with the Habitat Regulations.
10. Therefore, it is proposed that full Council be recommended to formally ‘make’ the PNP with immediate effect. This will bring it into legal force. An extraordinary meeting of full Council has been convened to take place on Monday 22 April 2024 for this purpose and to meet the prescribed timescales.
11. The principal effect of this is that it will become part of the statutory ‘development plan’ for the area. Hence, planning applications within Peasmarsh Parish will be determined against the PNP, alongside relevant Local Plan policies, also having regard to the National Planning Policy Framework.

12. A specific outcome to be noted is the fact that the development boundary for Peasmarsh as defined in the 2006 Rother District Local Plan will be superseded by that in the PNP.
13. The decision to make the PNP will need to be publicised and notified to those who had asked to be advised. A statement setting out how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Plan also needs to be published and consultees informed. This statement will set out that the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the PNP has also been adopted and will form part of the Local Development Plan for Rother District Council.

### **Financial Implications**

14. There are no financial implications for the proposals within this report.

### **Legal Implications**

15. Compliance with relevant neighbourhood plan legislation is detailed within the report.
16. There is an opportunity for legal challenge in the event of perceived failures in these respects, but the Council and the independent Examiner, as well as the Parish Council, has been careful to ensure due process has been followed.

### **Human Resources Implications**

17. There are no Human Resource implications for the proposals within this report.

### **Environmental**

18. The Habitats Regulations Assessment of the strategic issues relating to Rother District Council's Development and Site Allocations Local Plan concluded that, with mitigation in relation to identified development sites and policies in place, there would be no adverse effects on the integrity of the Pevensy Levels SAC/Ramar and Dungeness Complex of Natura 2000 sites. A screening consideration of the one additional allocation proposed by the PNP concludes that the site can be screened out. With the screening out of the additional allocation proposed by the PNP, it can be concluded that the Plan would avoid impact on the protected Habitat Sites.

### **Risk Management**

19. The making of a Neighbourhood Plan is a requirement, with very limited exemptions, once it has been supported by a local referendum. The Council needs to be satisfied that all the 'basic conditions' are met and that the Plan has been properly prepared.

<b>Other Implications</b>	<b>Applies?</b>	<b>Other Implications</b>	<b>Applies?</b>
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	External Consultation	No
Environmental	Yes	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	Yes	Exempt from publication	No

Report Contact Officer:	Julia Edwards Senior Planning Officer
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Appendices:	None
Relevant Previous Minutes:	None
Background Papers:	None
Reference Documents:	None

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**Rother District Council**

**Report to:** Cabinet

**Date:** 8 April 2024

**Title:** Temporary Accommodation Investment Strategy and Temporary Accommodation Purchases

**Report of:** Joe Powell, Head of Housing and Regeneration

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor McCourt

**Ward(s):** All

**Purpose of Report:** To request funds for the purchase of property for use as temporary accommodation for homeless households.

**Decision Type:** Key

**Officer**

**Recommendation(s):** **Recommendation to COUNCIL:** That:

- 1) the amended Temporary Accommodation Investment Strategy be approved;
- 2) the current 'Housing - Temporary Accommodation Purchase' capital budget of £12.476m be increased by a further £12m to enable the acquisition of additional temporary accommodation, to be funded by £9m of borrowing and £3m anticipated grant provision from Homes England;
- 3) the additional revenue impact for 2024/25 of £68,000 be approved, to be funded from reserves if service savings are not forthcoming and that the future estimated revenue impacts be noted;
- 4) delegated authority be granted to the Head of Housing and Regeneration to complete property purchases as required, in consultation with Section 151 Officer;
- 5) delegated authority be granted to the Head of Housing and Regeneration to receive Capital Grant Awards to support the purchase of temporary accommodation, in consultation with Section 151 Officer; and
- 6) delegated authority be granted to the Head of Housing and Regeneration to make amendments to the Temporary Accommodation Investment Strategy from time to time in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing.

**Reasons for**

**Recommendations:** To improve the quality of accommodation and reduce ongoing revenue costs to the Council while ensuring homeless households are well supported in the local area and are enabled to access longer-term housing effectively.

## Introduction

1. A key objective within the Council's Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-24 (Minute C18/65 refers) is to acquire in partnership, or develop where appropriate, council owned Temporary Accommodation (TA) provision to meet the varied needs of homeless households in Rother. In September 2019, Cabinet approved the allocation of £3m to purchase of accommodation for temporary use by homeless households (Minute CB19/09 refers), on the basis that the investment would save the Council an estimated £70,000 annually, based on the income and cost assumptions used. In March 2021, Cabinet approved a further £6m for purchases (Minute CB20/119), where it was estimated that the additional investment would save the Council £160,000 annually; providing a total estimated annual saving of £230,000. Along with various external grants the total gross capital budget allocation stands at £12.476m.
2. The proposals within this report are designed to work as part of a package of TA solutions. The Council will also continue to use a number of privately owned and well-managed TA establishments.
3. The Temporary Accommodation Investment Strategy (TAIS) has been a success and achieved the aims and objectives it set itself at its inception in 2019. The Housing Solutions team that has evolved since 2019 and now possess the knowledge, experience and skills to effectively purchase, refurbish and manage its own TA, in line with relevant statutory legislation. The Council will be able to continue to improve the model of service it provides from one of high cost, single room accommodation – which is sometimes remotely located – to a model which:
  - provides self-contained accommodation for households with children;
  - increases the amount of TA available locally;
  - ensures a minimum quality standard of accommodation;
  - ensures a minimum standard of property management and support for residents; and
  - reduces costs.

## Performance Update

4. The Council has spent approximately £5.4m in previous years and is forecast to spend approximately £6m in 2023/24, which leaves an unallocated balance of approximately £1.1m in 2024/25. The investment has provided the Council with 30 general needs TA units, as well as 12 Housing First units of accommodation. In addition, we are due to complete on a further seven units of accommodation by end of March 2024. The number of units secured is fewer than was originally envisaged due to the challenges in securing larger shared facilities accommodation from the market.
5. The actual costs avoided by the Council annually, based on the 30 units of general needs TA it owns, is £390,000. The increased cost avoidance has been supported by the Council latterly becoming a Registered Provider and, therefore, becoming eligible for external central Government grant from Homes England. In addition, we have required tenants to meet the cost of their utilities directly as well as reviewing and revising the level of rent received.



6. In total we have secured almost £3.5m in additional capital grant on top of the £9m allocation made by the Council. Homes England have since confirmed that it would be prudent to assume that their grants schemes can provide up to 30% match funding against future Council investment.
7. The need for more TA remains a pressing need for the Council. As of February 2024, the Council had 172 households in TA funded from its own revenue budget. The Council's budget for TA continues to increase and at the time of writing, the TA budget has risen to just under £2m next year, which means it will have tripled over the last four years.
8. Therefore, at current values, the proposed investment of a further £9m of Council funds, will mean the Council can secure approximately 50 more units of accommodation and avoid costs in the region of a further £564,000 annually which reflects a return on that investment of 6.3%.
9. Members should note that properties purchased with central Government grant are to be used for the purpose for which they were purchased for 30 years. It is possible to dispose of these properties at a later date, should levels of homelessness fall over time; however, the Council would have to pay back a proportion of the grant received. The exit strategy from the investment will be to first review whether any property owned by the Council can be put to a different use; then, as with any property investment, assets under Council ownership can be sold and the capital receipt reinvested into future Council budgets.

### **Cost of Temporary Accommodation**

10. The table at Appendix A illustrates the average net cost to the Council of TA through private providers, per size of household.
11. The average length of stay in TA is 70 days for single people and childless couples and 86 days for families with children. The average net cost to the Council of placing single households or childless couples in privately-owned TA is £3,266 for the entire length of their placement. The average net cost of a placement is significantly more for households with children, with each placement costing the Council £5,005 on average.
12. Based on the 2-bed houses the Council owns at present, there is a net cost per unit to the Council of £18.67 per night on average (£6,813 per year) as opposed to an average of £46.19 per night (£16,860 per year) for accommodating the same size household through private providers.

### **Financial Assessment**

13. A financial assessment of the income and costs associated with the Council investing a further £9m (£12m including the assumed Homes England grant provision) into TA has been completed using actual cost and income data from the current TA programme. The assessment undertaken includes an illustration of the costs which can be avoided by being able to accommodate households in Council-owned TA rather than in private provision.
14. The table below illustrates the level of investment required to purchase 50 2-bed properties to outline the approximate revenue income and costs the

Council can expect from the investment, as well as the level of costs the Council will avoid by not having to place the households in privately provided TA. It should be noted that, whilst the cost avoidance does not mean we can reduce the revenue budget, it does mean that we do not have to increase the budget further and is therefore relevant to the decision making. Similarly, the cost reduction excludes the impact of any appreciation or depreciation in the value of the purchased properties.

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/2030
<b>No. Properties (2 bed)</b>	10	30	50	50	50	50
<b>Income</b>	£80,776.80	£242,330.40	£403,884.00	£403,884.00	£403,884.00	£403,884.00
<b>Cost</b>	-£148,913.99	-£446,741.97	-£744,569.94	-£744,569.94	-£744,569.94	-£744,569.94
<b>Sub total</b>	-£68,137.19	-£204,411.57	-£340,685.94	-£340,685.94	-£340,685.94	-£340,685.94
<b>3rd Party Cost</b>	£181,017.80	£543,053.40	£905,089.00	£905,089.00	£905,089.00	£905,089.00
<b>Cost avoidance</b>	£112,880.61	£338,641.83	£564,403.06	£564,403.06	£564,403.06	£564,403.06

15. At present the forecasts above indicate a revenue budget impact of £68,000 for 2024/25, £204,000 for 2025/26 and £341,000 in 2026/27 onwards. The £68,000 will need to be approved, to be funded from reserves, if savings from the temporary accommodation budget (or elsewhere) are not forthcoming as a result of the additional acquisitions, as they may be offset by additional demand.
16. However as highlighted above without the additional units any additional demand would be at a much higher cost to the Council as indicated by the cost avoidance figures.
17. As this is a 3-year scheme there will be an opportunity to monitor and revise the position if required. The first stage of this will be this autumn as part of the 2025/26 budget setting process when demand levels for the future year may be clearer. At that point we may well be able to realise some savings which would help to lower the borrowing costs of the acquisitions and the full anticipated impacts will be able to be built into the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Identifying further sources of match funding through grant support would also help to reduce the impact.
18. At present the position outlined above represents a worst case position in terms of the revenue impact and does not assume any savings will be available to support the borrowing costs. This position is however based on the assumption that demand does not continue to increase, which may result in further revenue pressures. The acquisition of these additional units would however reduce the cost impact of having to use external providers/private units.

### Temporary Accommodation Investment Strategy

19. The financial assessment should be read in parallel with the TAIS at Appendix B which outlines the type of properties the Council intends to acquire for use as

TA, alongside how these properties will be purchased, managed, maintained and repaired.

20. The TAIS has been developed following a review of the level and type of demand for TA alongside a review of local property prices, ancillary purchase costs, investment risks and property management risks. The property management risks and how these will be mitigated are included separately at Appendix C.
21. Since the start of the TAIS, the housing department has expanded significantly and with this recruitment a number of staff have started with established skills, knowledge and experience in housing management and support. Officers are still exploring the cost effectiveness of commissioning specialist support services to improve accommodation outcomes.

## **Conclusion**

22. The purchase of property for use as TA will provide the Council with more control over the quality of TA available locally, as well as being able to achieve greater control of revenue costs. It is estimated that the level of investment recommended will enable the Council to avoid costs of up to approximately £730,000 annually. This cost avoidance excludes the impact of any appreciation or depreciation in the value of the purchased properties.
23. The benefits of any investment need to be offset against both the costs as well as the staffing and resource constraints which exist. The approach will allow the Council to continue to build on the skills and expertise it has established within the Housing Solutions team, enabling the Council to confidently expand its TA management operation for the future.

## **Financial Implications**

24. The financial costs and benefits of the proposal are detailed in the report.

## **Legal Implications**

25. The legal implications of the proposed recommendation are detailed within the report and its appendices.

## **Environmental**

26. The accommodation purchased will be offered to tenants with the following standard: EPC 'C' or above. The housing will comply with Health and safety standards for rented homes (HHSRS) and Decent Homes Standard.
27. In line with the Council's strategic documents:
  - Rother District Council Corporate Plan 2020-2027 – Quality Physical Environment/ Reducing carbon emissions – support low carbon initiatives, reduce fuel poverty [www.rother.gov.uk/strategies-policies-and-plans/corporate-plan-2020-2027/](http://www.rother.gov.uk/strategies-policies-and-plans/corporate-plan-2020-2027/)
  - [Climate Strategy – Rother District Council](#)

## Risk Assessment Statement

28. The TAIS has been amended and describes how the Council will conduct due diligence in order to complete the purchase of residential properties to minimise investment risks.
29. The risks associated with managing TA are detailed at Appendix C. The risks are mitigated by using internal Council resources where these have been assessed as sufficient and recommends the use of specialist contractors or partner agencies where required.
30. It is possible that there may be a reduction in the level of homelessness we experience over time. The exit strategy from the investment will be to first review whether any property owned by the Council can be put to a different use; ultimately any asset under Council ownership can be sold and the capital receipt reinvested into Council budgets.
31. There are also risks associated with choosing not to invest in property for use as TA. The Council has had some success in reducing the rate at which the number of households in TA rose prior to the pandemic; however, in addition to minimising demand the Council needs to reduce the amount it spends on providing TA.
32. There is a risk to Council reputation of continuing to use single room accommodation to house families with children which may be seen as compromising the Council's values and ethics.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	Consultation	No
Environmental	Yes	Access to Information	No
Sustainability	No	Exempt from publication	No
Risk Management	Yes		

Chief Executive:	Lorna Ford
Report Contact Officer:	Joe Powell
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Appendices:	Appendix A - Average Net Cost of Temporary Accommodation Per Household Appendix B – Temporary Accommodation Strategy 2021 Appendix C – Risk Register
Relevant Previous Minutes:	C18/65 CB19/09
Background Papers:	Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2019-24 <a href="#">Health and safety standards for rented homes (HHSRS)</a> <a href="#">A decent home: Definition and guidance for implementation (June 2006 update)</a>
Reference Documents:	List any published documents you want to reference.

## AVERAGE NET COST OF TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION PER HOUSEHOLD

AVERAGE TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION COSTS							
	Cost Per Night	Days In	Gross	Weekly LHA	Daily LHA	Total LHA	Average Net Cost to Rother
1 Bed Need	58.54	70	4097.50	-83.08	-11.87	-599.36	3266.71
2 Bed Need	66.05	69	4557.34	-114.23	-16.32	-1,311.66	3431.38
3 Bed Need	71.59	53	3794.35	-155.77	-22.25	-1,793.38	2614.93
4 Bed Need	95	137	13,015.00	-206.66	-29.52	-1,092.34	8,970.41

## TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2024

The Temporary Accommodation Investment Strategy will outline the approximate number and types of property the Council will target for use as temporary accommodation alongside how these properties will be purchased, managed, repaired and maintained.

### 1. Property Purchases

The risks of each potential investment will be considered by carrying out due diligence to include the following:

- Valuation.
- Market Conditions.
- Building surveys.
- Funding options.
- External red book valuations.
- Future costs: e.g. ground rent, service charges, major works, and maintenance throughout the lifecycle of the property.

The Council employ an Acquisitions Officer, to source and oversee each property transaction in-house in partnership with internal colleagues. Other external specialist property investment advisors will be retained on each transaction as required, advising on suitability having undertaken detailed pre-purchase due diligence, including valuation and risk analysis.

The Council will also consider options for the development of property where this is assessed as cost effective, relative to purchases; development options that may include modular construction.

### 2. Property Standards and Management

All property purchased will adhere to decent homes standards or be refurbished to meet these standards. Properties will be inspected by the Council Environmental Health team to ensure compliance with the Housing Health and Safety Rating Systems (HHSRS) standards.

The Council will ensure each property has a minimum EPC standard of C or above prior to it being used as accommodation to accommodate homeless households temporarily.

Do we need to include a cost for a maintenance operative?

It is proposed that the repairs, maintenance and refurbishment elements of the portfolio be delivered from existing resources within the Council's Housing Needs team with support from the Estates Maintenance and Private Sector Housing teams. We will contract additional specialist services as required.

We currently run the housing management and support in-house through existing resources but may commission an external service at a later date.

Households placed in temporary accommodation owned by the Council will be required to pay utilities bills and council tax directly. This is to help households

to build independence towards moving to permanent accommodation but will also reduce the costs to the council. We completed a consultation with tenants and there was no opposition to this – we had positive responses advising it would help them adjust to independent accommodation.

All white goods supplied by the temporary accommodation residents will be PAT tested by the Council and replaced as necessary where existing white goods are faulty.

### 3. Property Type, Tenure & Location

Freehold tenure is preferred to leasehold. Freehold provides greater levels of security than a leasehold asset that would effectively decrease in value over time. However, the Council will consider leasehold properties where leases are in excess of 99 years and were former local-authority flats – managed by Registered Provider partners – are available for purchase, following a due diligence process.

In addition, opportunities to acquire either very long leases of 900 years plus or a share of a freehold with flat purchases will be considered. There is the potential risk of purchasing leaseholds with poor quality freeholders or their agents; it is felt prudent to consider such purchases only following proper due diligence of the Freehold and management arrangements; should there be any significant changes to the either the freehold owner or management company that affect the quality of freehold management then a sale of the relevant asset can be considered.

The Council will consider property purchases comprised of mixed commercial and residential use. . The Council will look for opportunities to align purchases with wider strategic regeneration objectives.

The Council will consider property purchases where the present planning use is not residential – such as former residential care homes or guest houses, subject to close consultation with planning colleagues.

Homeless applicants will be accommodated temporarily under the Council's Housing Act powers, which it is able to do when a household is homeless. The applicants will be issued with a non-secure tenancy by the Council by virtue of Homelessness legislation. They do not have security of tenure within the meaning of Section 79 of the Housing Act 1985. They do not have the Right to Buy, Right to Exchange, Right to Succession, Right to take in Lodgers or to sublet. This is the practice presently in self-contained temporary accommodation provided by neighbouring local authorities already managing their own temporary accommodation.

The Council will consider opportunities to purchase property for use as temporary accommodation across the whole of the Rother district with a focus on urban areas which are close to amenities, schools and transport links. The Council will focus on purchasing former local authority housing as these tend to be in urban areas as well as having been built to minimum space and decent homes standards.

#### 4. Property Price

Taking all of the above considerations into account, the following specific criteria are proposed:

- Freehold preferred and leasehold considered where Registered Provider is the Freeholder or the lease is over 900 years; share of freehold is also considered.
- Geographically located within the Rother District.
- Meets decent homes standards or can be affordably refurbished to meet these standards.

Funding for the acquisition of assets should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

The Council will review this strategy as the portfolio develops and as the Council's business needs evolve.

It is possible that we will experience a reduction in the level of homelessness we experience over time. The exit strategy from the investment will be to first review whether any property owned by the Council can be put to a different use, for example accommodating households permanently as part of potential future strategic aims; ultimately any asset under Council ownership can be sold and the capital receipt reinvested into Council budgets.



## RISK REGISTER

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
1. Tenants experience poor property conditions and a risk to their health and safety.	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All properties will be inspected by the Council to an HHSRS standard before being managed and will receive a minimum 12 monthly HHSRS audit inspection thereafter.</li> <li>All properties will be inspected weekly by the housing management officer.</li> <li>All properties will be installed with smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors (where required) and will be tested every month by the Housing management officer.</li> <li>Gas safety certificates.</li> <li>Electrical safety certificates.</li> <li>Fire risk assessments.</li> <li>Complete new gas and electrical certification when properties turnover.</li> </ul>
2. Lower than anticipated level of rental income.	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Housing Management Officer to support applicants to complete housing benefit forms and monitor income.</li> <li>Utilise eviction procedures as required.</li> <li>We have a rent management system.</li> </ul>
3. Income reduces as a result of the implementation of benefit reforms or changes in statutory guidance.	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly review the viability of scheme.</li> <li>Property can be sold or repurposed if approach becomes unviable.</li> <li>Tenants can be rehoused by the Housing Needs team where needed.</li> </ul>
4. Reputational risk to the Council.	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a communication and project plan.</li> <li>Regular project performance monitoring.</li> <li>Council corporate scrutiny procedures.</li> </ul>
5. Higher than anticipated level of voids.	Low	High	<p>Ensure re-let times are kept to a minimum by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>timely repairs and void turnaround;</li> <li>close housing management to ensure timely rent; and</li> <li>payments, minimal evictions and minimal absconding.</li> </ul>
6. Higher than anticipated levels of eviction and associated legal costs.	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure all households are assessed to establish support needs and ensure these are met.</li> <li>Ensure residents are supported to secure alternative accommodation which is permanent.</li> </ul>

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move households to alternative private sector temporary accommodation provision as required.</li> <li>• Offer households affordable permanent accommodation in the private and social housing sectors.</li> </ul>
7. The Council is unable to acquire properties.	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have researched property prices and have developed an investment appraisal based on present market prices.</li> </ul>
8. Homelessness increases and more accommodation is required to reduce costs.	Med	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will continue to monitor the supply of temporary accommodation relative to demand and present to Cabinet new opportunities for further investment as required.</li> </ul>
9. Demand for temporary accommodation reduces and we have an over-supply of TA	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration can be given to re-purposing accommodation to other uses – such as private rented sector tenancies.</li> <li>• Property can be sold and the capital receipt retained by the Council.</li> </ul>

**Rother District Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	8 April 2024
<b>Title:</b>	Long Term Plan for Towns Funding for Bexhill in 2024-25
<b>Report of:</b>	Joe Powell, Head of Housing and Regeneration
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Bayliss / Councillor Jeeawon
<b>Ward(s):</b>	All Bexhill Wards
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Key
<b>Officer</b>	
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<b>Recommendation to COUNCIL:</b> £14.936m (2024/2034) be added to the Capital Programme and phased in-line with the 10-year drawdown schedule, for the Long Term Plans for Towns. Additionally, £449,000 revenue funding for 2024/25 only.

**AND**

It be **RESOLVED**: That:

- 1) the receipt of £0.94m grant funding from the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Community's Long-Term Plan for Towns Fund in 2024/25 (detailed in Finance below), be approved;
- 2) the Councils' role as the accountable body for the Long-Term Plans for Towns and delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, for approval of the governance arrangements when finalised, be accepted; and
- 3) delegated authority be granted to the Head of Housing and Regeneration to enter into relevant agreements with third party entities, as agreed by the Long-Term Plans for Towns Board and for the purposes of delivering the programme, in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance.

**Reasons for**

**Recommendations:** The Long-Term Plan for Towns grant funding needs to be formally received by the council and added to the Council's revenue and capital budgets. The funds will be provided to delivery organisations in-line with decisions made by the Bexhill Town Board.

**Introduction**

1. The Long-Term Plan for Towns (LTPT) is a government initiative administered through the Department of Levelling Up and Communities (DLUHC). It is a regeneration initiative that aims to support improvements to UK towns, boosting

economic growth, improving infrastructure, enhancing social well-being and reducing disparities in areas most in need. The approach is one of empowering town communities to take a long term approach to creating change that will last (see [Our Long-Term Plan for Towns - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/long-term-plans/our-long-term-plan-for-towns)).

2. The LTPT has three high level funding themes:
  - Safety and Security
  - High Streets, Heritage and Regeneration
  - Transport and Connectivity
3. To achieve transformative impact in these areas, the LTPT will work through a 10-year commitment of government funding which is allocated on an endowment basis, enabling the draw down of spend in accordance with local plans and priorities, rather than being fixed by budget year.
4. The decision-making body for funding priorities will be a new local decision-making body – the Bexhill Town Board. The LTPT guidance states that the Town Board shall involve people from the local community, including businesses, working with central and local government representatives to identify and address regeneration priorities.
5. Whilst the Council will not be the decision-making body for the LTPT, it will be the accountable body for the spend as well as having a representative on the Town Board and is likely to become a delivery partner for some projects.

## **Overview**

6. The funding will be released by DLUHC subject to a 10-year vision statement and 3-year investment plan. The Levelling Up Partnership Manager, supported by Council Senior Managers and Members will work with the Town Board to develop both the vision statement and the investment plan, drawing on learning from direct community engagement. The 10-year vision and 3-year, evidence-based, investment plan must have formal Town Board approval.
7. DLUHC has established a Towns Unit to function as a cross-cutting hub, working across other government departments to smooth over barriers and maximise opportunities for the best use of the funding. A High Streets and Towns Taskforce has been established to support towns to deliver on their priorities.
8. A Bexhill-specific data pack has been provided by the DLUHC. It is the first time this data has been collated at town level by Central Government and some of the data goes down to the level of Super Output Areas. Most of the data is from 2021. It does not, therefore, take account of recent impacts of the COVID-19 related lockdowns, nor of the impact of economic challenges on individuals, businesses and communities. Despite this, it provides some useful benchmarking from which to identify priorities and monitor progress. This data set will be complemented by the development of a more in-depth local evidence base to inform the Town Board vision and initial investment plan.

## **Immediate timescales and priorities**

9. The timescale for establishing the Town Board's Terms of Reference (ToR) and wider governance structures is short. The DLUHC requires that by 1 April 2024,

the Town Board is established, with a Chair and Membership identified and with draft ToR developed for consideration by the Board.

10. The deadline for sending the 10-year vision and the 3-year investment plan is 1 August 2024.
11. DLUHC has provided specific guidance for Local Authorities and Town Boards<sup>1</sup>, covering the establishment of the Town Boards, high level investment themes, initial information on evaluation and assurance and Town Board governance requirements.

### **Establishing the Town Board and Membership**

12. The DLUHC guidance states that the Chair of the Town Board should be invited by the Local Authority, working closely with the local MP. The Chair should be either a local community leader or local businessperson and is responsible for ensuring that the Board is community-led and embedded in the local area. Elected representatives must not chair the Town Board.
13. Once appointed, the Chair should collaborate with the Local Authority to select Board Members. The default arrangement is that the Local Authority should function as Secretariat to the Board.
14. It is mandatory for the following to sit on the Town Board:
  - Parliamentary Representative(s).
  - A local Councillor from East Sussex County Council and from Rother District Council.
  - The Police and Crime Commissioner (or alternatively, a senior representative from Sussex Police).
15. Additionally, it may be decided that representatives of the following bodies sit on the Town Board:
  - Bexhill-on-Sea Town Council.

Other membership is at the Chair's discretion and should reflect a balance of:

- community partners (for example, community organisations, faith groups, neighbourhood forums, youth groups).
  - local businesses and social enterprises (key local employers/investors).
  - cultural, arts, heritage and sporting organisations; and
  - public agencies and anchor institutions (schools, colleges, higher education, Integrated Care Boards).
16. As Secretariat to the Town Board (see below), the Council will publish the Town Board membership and ToR on its website as soon as possible following the finalising of Board Members and not later than the end April 2024.

### **Capacity requirements**

17. The programme places a requirement on Rother District Council (RDC) to:
  - i. support the Partnership of and around the Town Board.
  - ii. provide the Secretariat to the Town Board.

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<sup>1</sup> Long Term Plan for Towns – Guidance for Local Authorities and Town Boards. Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. December 23

- iii. manage grant agreements and monitor the performance of grant recipients with the Town Board; and
  - iv. provide other functions as the accountable body (financial, legal, procurement services for example).
18. The recently appointed Levelling Up Partnership Manager will support the Chair and the Membership and the meetings of the Town Board and any required sub-groups. They will also lead on community engagement (see below Communications), drawing in the expertise of colleagues and partners as appropriate.
19. The Levelling Up Partnership Manager is working with Legal, Finance and Procurement Services to scope out and develop estimated costings to inform approval from the Town Board to allocate the funding necessary to cover capacity costs.

### **Communications**

20. An initial communications plan has been developed with the Marketing Communications Account Manager. This will be supplemented by a dedicated community engagement plan to both inform and involve our wider communities in developments. This will have a focus on inclusivity, directly seeking the views of groups that are traditionally marginalised in terms of representation (people of diverse faiths and ethnic backgrounds, younger people and those in the most deprived areas).

### **Economic Impact and Community Value**

21. A full economic and social impact assessment will be undertaken for the Town Board programme alongside that for the Levelling Up Partnership projects funding (which is subject of a separate Cabinet paper of the same date). This will be completed by 1 August 2024 as part of developing the evidence based 3-year investment plan.
22. Whilst the vision and investment plan is still to be developed through the Town Board, it is evident that this programme, alongside the shorter term Levelling Up Partnership funding, will provide significant direct social benefit in terms of social capital development, community health and wellbeing, directly addressing poverty and lack of affordable housing. It will also contribute to long term business growth through business infrastructure development.

### **Finance**

23. The total grant allocation over the 10-year period of Long-Term Plan for Towns is £19.510m across revenue and capital.
24. £50,000 revenue funding has been paid in 23/24 as initial capacity funding for the Council to do the work necessary to establish the Town Board by 1 April 2024.
25. The provisional revenue allocation for 24/25 is £449,000. The remaining £4,075,000 revenue funding is split across the budget years 2025/2034. This is to include capacity costs, including those relating to Town Board secretariat, community engagement, partnership development and support, legal and

procurement services, and financial services. These are in the process of being scoped as far as possible to anticipate costs.

26. The capital allocation totals £14.936m between 2024 and 2034, with exact spend to be decided through the Town Board.
27. Appendix A is an extract from DLUHC guidance showing breakdown of Capital and Revenue funding by year. The grant is allocated on an endowment basis, meaning that monies not spent in any one budget year can be carried forward. This enables long term planning and appropriate feasibility and business case preparation to make the best use of the funding.

### **Programme Governance**

28. The LTPFT governance arrangements will need to provide the Council with a level of assurance that satisfies its position as accountable body for the grant and minimise financial risks to the Council. In addition, to the accountable body function the new partnership presents extensive community engagement responsibilities as well as the secretariat function. Members should note that the governance arrangements are subject to change as the Council collaborates with stakeholders to ensure that it is able to achieve the assurances it needs as the accountable body.
29. To support the governance arrangements, a ToR for the Town Board is required. Work is in progress to support the Town Board Chair as needed.

### **Conclusion**

30. The commitment by DLUHC to more than £19m over 10 years for the levelling up of Bexhill represents much needed investment. It is a significant opportunity to transform the town in terms of its identity, its economic and social resilience and its shared prosperity alongside reduction in social and health inequalities.
31. It also represents a responsibility on all partners to work together in a constructive partnership to maximise the benefits of the opportunities presented and create a catalyst for positive community ownership in making the town fit for future generations.
32. Whilst RDC is not the decision-making body for how the funding has been allocated, it is the accountable body as well as being likely to be a project delivery partner. This makes the robustness and clarity of governance arrangements particularly important.
33. This is a fast moving initiative with complex relationship between its different elements. Regular updates will be provided.

### **Environmental Implications**

34. The Long-Term Plan for Towns programme will be assessed through the new RDC Carbon and Co-Benefits Decision Support Tool as projects arise, and updated in terms of Environmental Implications through the update of the LTPT Project Initiation Document which will be regularly sighted by the Senior Leadership Team.

## Equalities Impact

35. A full equalities impact assessment will be developed as part of the 3-year investment plan for the Town Board by 1 August 2021 in line with Equalities Act (2010 and updates) frameworks and in line with any specific requirements of the forthcoming DLUHC requirements. In addition, an assessment of the socio-economic impact will be developed as per the Council's recent commitment to do so. In the meantime, there are no negative equalities implications identified. Through grant agreements, all construction and public realm enhancement will be required to show consideration of equalities impact and compliance with Disability Discrimination Act (1995 and updates) and the Equality Act (2010 and updates).

## Risk Management

36. A risk register has been initiated through the Project Initiation Document (PID) for this programme, which has been reported to the Corporate Programme Board. A risk workshop is planned for April 2024 with relevant RDC managers. We recommend to the Town Board that it conduct its own risk workshop to promote peer risk identification and mitigation. Specific risk management will form part of the performance monitoring of any LTPT related grant agreements. The Levelling Up Partnership Manager will hold an overall risk register, which will be updated regularly, informed by these in-depth risk assessment processes and in line with DLUHC's own requirements. It will be regularly reviewed by the Town Board Chair/membership to be agreed as well as by RDC Senior Leaders through updates and reporting of the Project Initiation Document.
37. Once the programme has been established the Internal Audit Manager will be invited to provide review and feedback on both the registers and the overarching risk management process. Risk management will form part of regular updates of the LTPT PID to RDC Senior Leaders through Senior Leadership Team.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	Yes
Crime and Disorder	Yes	Consultation	No
Sustainability	Yes	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	Yes	Exempt from publication	No

Chief Executive:	Lorna Ford
Report Contact Officer:	Joe Powell – Head of Housing and Regeneration
e-mail address:	<a href="mailto:joe.powell@rother.gov.uk">joe.powell@rother.gov.uk</a>
Appendices:	Appendix A – Extract from DLUHC correspondence of 23 February 2024 showing breakdown and total of Long Term Plan for Towns Allocation
Relevant Previous Minutes:	None
Background Papers:	None
Reference Documents:	None



## Appendix A

Extract from DLUHC correspondence of 23 February 2024 showing breakdown and total of Long Term Plan for Towns Allocation<sup>2</sup>:

in 000's	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	Total
Total RDEL per place	50	449	423	449	449	449	449	454	467	467	467	4,574
Total CDEL per place		491	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	1,605	14,936
Total amount per place												19,510

<sup>2</sup> Note: this is additional to the Levelling Up Partnership Funding of £18,303k allocated to Rother projects for 24.25 spend. This list of projects is currently embargoed pending a formal announcement from DLUHC now due April 2024.

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**Rother District Council**

**Report to:** Cabinet

**Date:** 8 April 2024

**Title:** Levelling Up Partnership Funding and Projects

**Report of:** Ben Hook, Director – Place and Climate Change

**Cabinet Members:** Councillor Bayliss

**Ward(s):** All Wards

**Decision Type:** Key

**Officer**

**Recommendation(s):** **Recommendation to COUNCIL:** That the Levelling Up Partnership funding allocated by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for projects across Rother be added to the 2024/5 Capital Programme and Revenue Budgets at the amounts £18.080m and £0.410m, respectively.

**AND**

It be **RESOLVED:** That:

- 1) subject to full Council approval of the programme of projects outlined in this report, the total of £18,490,000 Levelling Up Fund be accepted, and the Director – Place and Climate Change be granted delegated authority to agree terms and conditions of the grant, in consultation with Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development;
- 2) delegated authority be granted to the Director – Place and Climate Change, in consultation with legal colleagues and the Council’s Section 151 Officer to extend Levelling Up Partnership grant funds to third party entities, as decided by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities allocation advice, via individual grant agreements; and
- 3) the Councils’ role as the accountable body for the Levelling Up Partnership be noted.

**Reasons for**

**Recommendations:** The DLUHC grant funding for the Levelling Up Partnership Programme 24/25 needs to be formally received by the Council and added to the Council’s Revenue and Capital budgets. The funds will be provided to delivery organisations in-line with decisions made by DLUHC.

## Introduction

1. The Levelling Up Partnership (LUP) is a government initiative administered through the Department of Levelling Up and Communities (DLUHC). The Government stated purpose of the LUPs initiative is to boost economic growth, improve infrastructure, enhance social well-being and reduce disparities in areas most in need<sup>1</sup>.
2. This funding is separate to the funding previously reported (the Levelling Up Fund) which was allocated by DLUHC to the De La Warr Pavilion and Sidley. This funding is a range of capital and revenue projects, Rother wide to boost economic growth and community infrastructure across the district.
3. Whilst the Council was consulted regarding strategic priorities, the final decisions on which projects would be allocated funding, and the amounts provisionally awarded, were made by DLUHC as a result of direct liaison with community and business projects and representatives.
4. The grant award is for 2024/25 spend and contains both Capital and Revenue funding.

## Overview

5. The prospective deliverers of the funded projects are:
  - Rother District Council (RDC)
  - Rother Voluntary Action (RVA)
  - The Pelham, Bexhill
  - Flatlands CIC for Beeching Road Studios, Bexhill
  - Chambers of Commerce for Battle, Bexhill and Rye
  - Sussex Police (for benefit to Rother district)

Project overviews can be found at Appendix A.

6. Projects need to be delivered by March 2025 with the formal announcement (and lifting of the embargo) expected from DLUHC by 1 April 2024.
7. An additional point to note is that DLUHC has also funded several other projects, for which East Sussex County Council is the accountable body. These are listed for information at the end of Appendix A.
8. Reporting of delivery progress and spend to DLUHC will be undertaken by the Levelling Up Partnership Manager, approved by the Director – Place and Climate Change, in line with DLUHC grant agreement requirements to be advised.
9. All projects will be screened and assessed, if necessary, under Subsidy Control regulations.
10. An initial communications plan has been developed with the Marketing Communications Account Manager.

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<sup>1</sup> [Partnerships in Place: The Business of Levelling Up | Local Government Association](#)

11. The Levelling Up Partnership Manager is working with Legal, Finance and Procurement Services to scope out and develop estimated costings to inform allocation of funding necessary to cover capacity costs.

### **Economic Impact and Community Value**

12. A full economic and social impact assessment will be undertaken for the LUP programme alongside that for the 3-year investment plan for the Bexhill Town Board (which is subject of a separate Cabinet paper of the same date). This will be ongoing and completed by 1 August 2024.
13. It is evident that the programme will provide significant direct social benefit in terms of social capital development, community health and wellbeing, directly addressing poverty and lack of affordable housing. It will also contribute to long term business growth through business infrastructure development and crime prevention. For example:
  - The funding for RDC delivered projects will enable much needed leisure and housing and primary and preventative health provision to be provided or enhanced.
  - The RDC delivered project to support the Rother Wine Economy will enhance work already being undertaken with funding through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).
  - The funding for the rural mobile community hub will enable the provision of primary care services (including vaccinations), food bank and other services in the most deprived/isolated rural areas.
  - The funding for the Chambers of Commerce has already led to improved collaboration between these organisations and RDC and can act as a catalyst for their own organisational development.
  - The funding for The Pelham and Flatlands (Beeching Road Studios) will play a major role in enabling financial sustainability for individual community organisations. It will also be a driver for more locality-based delivery of public and voluntary/community service provision and for the development of creative activity.
  - Further, funding for the Bexhill Community Hub is a key measure within the Council's adopted Anti-Poverty Strategy (2022-27) and will support the core aims of the strategy, namely to improve the coordination and accessibility of support and advice services locally.
  - Funding for the Database and Intranet for Safer Communities software system will allow real time evidence gathering of anti-social behaviour, shoplifting and other crimes which negatively impact on retail businesses and residents, especially in town centres.

### **Programme Governance**

14. The Council will be the accountable body for the LUP funded projects. Grant agreements between the Council and each individual grant recipient will make clear the terms under which the grant is awarded and minimise any risk to the

Council as accountable body; however, given the complexity of this programme which covers 13 distinct projects, it is important that a robust programme management and performance monitoring approach is followed, to ensure the terms of the grant agreements are met. The recently appointed Levelling Up Partnership Manager will oversee the grant delivery agreements with both internal (RDC) and external delivery partners, to ensure the financial and performance monitoring of projects, prepare reports to Senior Leaders, the Council and DLUHC, develop and deliver an effective communications programme, and ensure compliance with the reporting requirements of the LUP.

## **Conclusion**

15. The award of LUP funding represents much needed investment in community building infrastructure and capacity building that underpins social capital and reduction in social and health inequalities.
16. Whilst RDC is not the decision-making body for how the funding has been allocated, it is the accountable body as well as a delivery partner. This makes the robustness and clarity of governance arrangements particularly important.

## **Environmental Implications**

17. The LUP programme of funded projects will be tested through the new RDC Carbon and Co-Benefits Decision Support Tool by end April 24, and updated in terms of Environmental Implications through the update of the Project Initiation Document which will be regularly sighted by the Senior Leadership Team.

## **Equalities Impact**

18. A full equalities impact assessment will be developed for the programme by end April 24 and in-line with any requirements of the forthcoming DLUHC requirements. In addition, an assessment of the socio-economic impact will be developed as per the Council's recent commitment to do so. In the meantime, there are no negative equalities implications identified. Through grant agreements, all construction and public realm enhancement will be required to show consideration of equalities impact and compliance with Disability Discrimination Act (1995 and updates) and the Equality Act (2010 and updates).

## **Risk Management**

19. A risk register has been initiated through the Project Initiation Document (PID) for this programme which will be initially reported to the Corporate Programme Board 21 March 2024. A risk workshop is planned for April with relevant RDC managers. A networking group of external funding organisations will also meet regularly and an informal, peer risk identification and mitigation process will form part of this, in addition to the risk management provided through performance monitoring of the grant agreements. The overall risk register will be updated as regularly, informed by these in-depth risk assessment processes and in-line with DLUHC's own requirements.
20. Once the programme has been established, the Internal Audit Manager will be invited to review and provide feedback on both the registers and the

overarching risk management process. Risk management will form part of regular updates of the LUP PID to the Senior Leadership Team.

<b>Other Implications</b>	<b>Applies?</b>	<b>Other Implications</b>	<b>Applies?</b>
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	Yes
Crime and Disorder	Yes	Consultation	No
Sustainability	Yes	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	Yes	Exempt from publication	No

Chief Executive:	Lorna Ford
Report Contact Officer:	Ben Hook, Director – Place and Climate Change
e-mail address:	<a href="mailto:ben.hook@rother.gov.uk">ben.hook@rother.gov.uk</a>
Appendices:	Appendix A – Project Details
Relevant Previous Minutes:	None
Background Papers:	None
Reference Documents:	None

**Details of projects awarded DLUHC funding (as per the order of DLUHC award notification)**

Note: DLUHC funded projects ROTH\_06, ROTH\_07, ROTH\_14 will be delivered by East Sussex County Council, and they will be the accountable body. They are therefore excluded from the scope of this report.

DLUHC ref	Project	Deliverer	Capital (CDEL) 24/5 in £m	Revenue (RDEL) 24/5 in £m
ROTH_01	Residential units and leisure centre at King Offa	RDC	9.0	0.1
ROTH_02	Welcome Centre at Camber	RDC	1.69	
ROTH_03	Swimming pool and Leisure Centre improvements at Rye	RDC	0.65	
ROTH_04	Establishment of Barnhorn Green Health Centre, Sidley	RDC	5.0	
ROTH_05	Purchase and fitting of a mobile community hub (minibus) for rural Rother.	RVA	0.13	
ROTH_08	Bexhill Community Hub building purchase and renovation	RDC->lease to RVA		
ROTH_09	Final phase of the renovation of The Pelham community centre	The Pelham	0.34	
ROTH_10	Expansion and enhancement of Beeching Road Studios facilities for additional studio, exhibition and storage space	Flatlands CIC	0.12	
ROTH_11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhancements to Battle High Street tbc following further consultation with Chamber members and alignment (c. 0.01m CDEL)</li> <li>- Pot for enhancement of Bexhill public realm - tbc following further consultation with Chamber members and to align with any forthcoming Town Board priorities (c. 0.03m CDEL)</li> <li>- Public realm improvements for Rye - tbc following further consultation with Chamber members (c. 0.03m CDEL)</li> <li>- Capacity funding for business support development via Bexhill Chamber and case for Maritime Centre Bexhill to RIBA 3 (c.0.057m RDEL)</li> <li>- Preparation of case for Rye Business Improvement District (c. 0.063m RDEL)</li> </ul>	Chambers of Commerce: Battle; Bexhill; Rye	0.07	0.12
ROTH_12	Signage and virtual asset to support Rother Wine Economy	RDC	0.05	
ROTH_13	Licensing and 2 years management of DISC system <sup>2</sup>	Sussex Police	0.03	

<sup>2</sup> Database and Intranet for Safer Communities



**Table 2: List of DLUHC funded projects (24/5) for which East Sussex County Council is the accountable body. These are outside the direct scope of this report but are shown here for information to our best knowledge on 24 March 2023**

<b>DLUHC ref</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Deliverer</b>	<b>Capital (CDEL) 24/5 in £m</b>	<b>Revenue (RDEL) 24/5 in £m</b>
ROTH_06	Sidley Family Hub and Youth Services - funding for extensive improvements to Sidley Family Hub allowing for multiple services to be delivered at the same time	ESCC is accountable body	0.09	-
ROTH_07	Funding for a new mobile youth bus, which would be delivered by ESCC, and would aid delivery of youth services in rural areas and tackle anti-social behaviour	ESCC is accountable body	0.07	-
ROTH_14	Flexible pot administered by ESCC to support proposals from FE colleges and other organisations to improve skills provision.	ESCC is accountable body	0.53	-

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