



REPORT TO CABINET

25 July 2018

Subject:	Friends of Ingestre Orangery - Grant Offer
Presenting Cabinet Member:	Cllr Steve Trow – Cabinet Member for Culture and Core Services
Director:	Executive Director - Resources - Darren Carter Director Regeneration & Growth – Amy Harhoff
Contribution towards Vision 2030: 	
Key Decision:	No
Forward Plan (28 day notice) Reference:	Not a key decision
Cabinet Member Approval and Date:	Cabinet Member for Culture and Core Council Services - Cllr Steve Trow - 9 July 2018
Director Approval:	Executive Director - Resources - Darren Carter Director Regeneration & Growth – Amy Harhoff
Reason for Urgency:	Urgency provisions do not apply
Exempt Information Ref:	Exemption provisions do not apply
Ward Councillor (s) Consulted (if applicable):	Ward councillors have not been consulted
Scrutiny Consultation Considered?	Scrutiny have not been consulted
Contact Officer(s):	Lee Constable – Strategic Assets & Land lee_constable@sandwell.gov.uk

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Authorise a grant sum of £150k match funding, to Friends of Ingestre Orangery in support of a Sustainable Restoration Project of Ingestre Orangery with the Council's grant supporting the overall project costs of £1,546,986 with a confirmed award from Heritage Lottery Fund of £1,018,500 along with additional awards of £100k from the European LEADER Fund.
2. Request that in connection with Resolution 1, the documentation requested, which forms part of the conditional offer as set out below in section 1.3 and 1.4 be formally assessed by the Council's Strategic Investment Unit.
3. Agree, subject to a satisfactory appraisal and review to be undertaken by the Council's Strategic Investment Unit, in respect of recommendation 1 above, the Executive Director of Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Culture and Core Council Services, take the necessary decisions to transfer such funds to Friends of Ingestre Orangery, from central resources, on timescales to be agreed.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To confirm formally the offer of a grant of £150,000 from Sandwell Council towards the combined overall costs of capital works and the initial three years of activities programme in support of the regeneration of Ingestre Orangery.
- 1.2 The Council is aware that Friends of Ingestre Orangery have recently provided a range of updated documentation to the Heritage Lottery Fund for confirmation to be given for 'permission to start'. It is recognised that this documentation may include variations to information previously provided to the council in respect of e.g. capital costs, income, and activities plans.
- 1.3 The council's grant offer is therefore conditional on the submission of copies of this documentation and on Friends of Ingestre Orangery providing satisfactory evidence of:
 - A viable updated Project Programme including capital works and activities
 - An updated Project Cost Plan and balanced budget

including confirmed funding

- A revised Cashflow Forecast including any provision required and confirmed for loan finance or underwriting
- Confirmation of the Heritage Lottery Fund's endorsement of the terms of the lease now agreed with Sandwell Council
- Confirmation of the Heritage Lottery Fund's 'permission to start' following receipt of your acceptance of this offer and of the required documentation, the council anticipates that our grant will be released in two instalments. An initial instalment of £100,000 will be payable within 30 days of receipt of satisfactory documentation as detailed above.

- 1.4 The Council is also aware that Friends of Ingestre Orangery are currently commissioning further detailed consultancy work on an intended 'Interpretation Strategy and Activities Programme'. As previously indicated to Friends of Ingestre Orangery the Council particularly wishes to ensure the optimum benefit of the project for children and young people, including children from Sandwell attending courses at Ingestre Hall.
- 1.5 The second instalment of £50,000 will therefore be payable following receipt of the conclusions of this consultancy work and the evidence of their intention that the project will provide a continuing benefit to young people.

2 IMPLICATION FOR THE COUNCIL'S AMBITION

- 2.1 The value of heritage is already a major defining dimension of the Ingestre experience for our children and young people in this exceptional and historic setting. This experience will continue to make a key contribution to the deeper appreciation of why heritage matters and of how the legacy of the past can be so powerfully support learning, discovery and confidence building today.
- 2.2 To be able to add to that experience the contribution that the project could make as a new dedicated hub for such learning - and importantly as a practical, working example of how heritage can engage and invigorate a local community - would set heritage firmly alongside the other cultural and creative learning programmes of the Ingestre offer for at least 2,800 children each year.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Ingestre Hall is a Grade II listed property in Staffordshire, owned and operated by Sandwell MBC as a Residential Arts and Conference Centre. Ingestre Hall aims to extend the legacy of Ingestre Arts to be nationally recognised as a centre of excellence where children and young people's horizons are broadened and where they are inspired and motivated to achieve their full potential in an aspirational environment where creativity and sense of self is valued and encouraged.
- 3.2 Ingestre Hall is unique in the UK as a Local Authority Arts Centre that has welcomed, over the past 5 years, more than 12,000 children and young people on arts residential.
- 3.3 The Orangery is situated within the grounds of Ingestre Hall, which due to its poor condition, is not currently utilised by Sandwell MBC. Reductions in council funding have limited the availability of resources to undertake the level of restoration and maintenance required and therefore in January 2015, Sandwell MBC granted the Friends of Ingestre Orangery a 30-year lease to enable them to take on the repair and maintenance of the Orangery.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 Further to a letter from the council on 10 July 2018, HLF have now given full permission to start work. Works on Site will commence Monday 16 July 2018.
- 4.2 It was imperative that works on site started as per the scheduled date due to completion being required by no later than 31 March 2019 in order to draw down the European LEADER funding which is subject to time constraints.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 The Council's Learning Directorate are aware of the project and are in full support of the project outcomes providing additional space for learning enhancing the overall Ingestre offer to Sandwell's young people.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 Given Ingestre Hall and the surrounding estate are Grade II listed, The Council would need to commit funds in excess of £300k to rectify the poor condition of the Orangery to limit the level of deterioration and would then need to consider a longer-term alternative use.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The provision of grant funding should not present a major risk to the Council's resources and given section 6.1 above, creating a longer term sustainable financial solution, supported by the information provided and with the full implementation of any action points identified as part of the financial appraisal.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 All legal and governance considerations will form part of the appraisal review.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening exercise has been carried out and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 This report does not relate to the collection of personal information and therefore a privacy impact assessment is not required.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 The Corporate Risk Management Strategy (CRMS) will continue to be complied with throughout, in identifying and assessing the significant risks associated with this proposal. This includes (but is not limited to) political, legislation, financial, environmental and reputation risks.
- 11.2 A project risk register has been compiled and will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

- 12.1 Friends of Ingestre Orangery have a robust delivery plan for both construction related activities and post construction activities with an activity plan to take them forward for at least the first 3 years of the project upon completion of the capital works.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 The restoration and expansion of the Orangery will add to the overall experience the site has to offer providing valuable cultural and heritage learning space and providing an experience which will help enrich Sandwell school children for the future.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 From an asset management perspective, the risk of this project falling away and the liability returning to Sandwell Council as a result would be significant for the asset given we would be limited by budgets constraints to maintain to a sufficient standard.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 The identified restoration project of the Orangery will not only safeguard the asset longer term but will more importantly enhance the overall experience of Ingestre Hall.

15.2 The Orangery will as part of its activity plan moving forward, directly link in to the Hall providing valuable additional learning space and a cultural experience for many school age children of Sandwell.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None

17 APPENDICES:

None