

**Urgent Decision**  
**Part A**  
**12 September 2022**  
**Part i**

**Future High Street Fund – Notice of Motion update**

**Purpose of Decision**

To approve budget for and provide clarity on the scope of work for the actions necessary to progress the Notice of Motion approved by Council in relation to the Future High Street Fund projects for Newton Abbot.

**Officer**

Neil Blaney  
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**Executive Member**

Executive Member for Economy and Jobs, Cllr Nina Jeffries

***Progress***

- 1 Who Consulted – Cllrs Nuttall (Chair), Clarence (Vice Chair) and Connett (Leader) – Friday 9 September 2022
- 2 Discussion with Executive Member – Friday 9 September 2022
- 3 Chair of O&S 2 (Cllr Bullivant) consulted – Friday 9 September 2022
- 4 Members notified – via Members Newsletter – Friday 9 September 2022
- 5 Placed on Executive Agenda - Date

**1. Proposed Decision**

To approve the recommendations as set out in the Executive report of 12 September 2022 including agreeing the actions as set out in Section 2 of the report and allocation of £64,000 from the Executive's general reserve balance to fund the additional work required to complete the actions.

**2. Background**

At Full Council on 26 July 2022 members agreed a Notice of Motion from the Leader requesting officers investigate six actions in relation to the Future High Street Fund project.

A report to the Executive was prepared for consideration at the meeting of 12 September 2022.

As a mark of respect during the mourning period following the death of the Queen the Executive meeting was cancelled, with all matters deferred to a future meeting.

However, due to the critical timelines associated with the Future High Street Fund programme, and the need to provide the information sought in a timely manner, a decision to proceed with the recommendations will be made in line with provisions set out under section 4.19.2 (d) of the Council's Constitution.

### **3. Main Implications**

The main implications are set out in the published report: [FHSF Exec report 12.9.22.pdf \(teignbridge.gov.uk\)](#)

The additional implications relate to the impact of delaying the decision to the next available Executive Committee, which is on 4 October 2022.

The Future High Street Fund grant award needs to be drawn down and spent by the end of March 2024. The Notice of Motion will require some of the current activities to be paused and the approved projects and programme timeline to be amended, which will require sign-off from the Council and then the Future High Street Fund team.

There is no flexibility in the end date and the approved programme does not incorporate sufficient flexibility to allow for delays and additional work. A further delay of three weeks in commissioning the additional work required to investigate the Notice of Motion adds to the significant uncertainty and risks to the projects as set out in the Executive report.

### **4. Alternative Options**

The alternative option would be to await the next available meeting of the Executive on 4 October 2022. As highlighted above, this would add to the delay and put the project at further risk.

### **5. Justification**

Council has requested the work to be undertaken to inform decision making on the Future High Street Fund project. A delay in undertaking that work will add risk to the project and could result in a significant grant funding for regeneration in Newton

Abbot town centre being withdrawn. It is therefore critical to make an urgent decision to enable officers to progress the work in an expedient manner and minimise the risk to the project timescale.