

## REPORT TO CABINET

<b>Open</b>		Would any decisions proposed :		
<b>Any especially affected Wards</b>	Mandatory/	Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide	YES	
	Discretionary /	Need to be recommendations to Council	NO	
	Operational	Is it a Key Decision	YES	
Lead Member: Cllr Alistair Beales E-mail: cllr.alistair.beales@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted: Cllr Elizabeth Nockolds		
		Other Members consulted: Cllr Avril Wright		
Lead Officer: Ostap Paparega E-mail: ostap.paparega@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616890		Other Officers consulted: Ray Harding, Management Team, Matthew Henry		
Financial Implications YES	Policy/Personnel Implications YES	Statutory Implications NO	Equal Impact Assessment NO	Risk Management Implications NO

Date of meeting: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017

### KING'S LYNN HERITAGE ACTION ZONE

#### Summary

The Borough Council has been awarded Heritage Action Zone status by Historic England. The award has been granted on an 'in-principal' basis, subject to submission of a detailed Delivery Plan. This report outlines the key elements of King's Lynn's Heritage Action Zone and details the governance and management arrangements as well as the proposal's intervention logic framework.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Accepts Historic England's 'in-principle' award of the Heritage Action Zone status for King's Lynn
2. Approves the King's Lynn Heritage Action Zone boundary, shown as the development boundary in Appendix 1
3. Approves the King's Lynn Heritage Action Zone Intervention Logic Framework as detailed in Appendix 2
4. Approves the King's Lynn Heritage Action Zone governance and management arrangements as shown in Appendix 3
5. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Commercial Services and the Regeneration, Heritage and Economic Development Manager in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate Projects and Assets to agree the Delivery Plan with Historic England.

## Reason for Decision

This proposal meets the following corporate priorities, as stated in the Corporate Business Plan 2015/16-2019/20:

Priority 2: Drive local economic and housing growth

6. We will support new and existing businesses to help them thrive
7. We will meet our housing growth targets

Priority 4: Celebrate our local heritage and culture

11. We will support the improvement of our built heritage, drawing in third-party funding wherever possible
12. We will support leisure and tourism within the borough

## Background

1. In May 2015, Historic England's Urban Panel paid a two-day study visit to King's Lynn. The Urban Panel is a national body whose remit is 'to engage with Government policy and best practice as it relates to urban regeneration and the historic environment [...] and to provide useful strategic advice to public and private bodies with an interest in places where significant changes to the built environment are being planned.'<sup>1</sup> Membership of the Panel includes experts in the following fields: conservation, architecture, urban design, archaeology, history, property, development economics, retail and regeneration.
2. The study visit included meetings with Members and officers, key stakeholders and site visits. Following the visit, the Panel produced a report, which included a recommendation for King's Lynn to apply for the newly launched Heritage Action Zone initiative.
3. The Borough Council submitted a bid in September 2016 and attended an assessment interview with the Historic England Evaluation Panel. Following this initial stage, the Borough Council's proposal was shortlisted for appraisal by the National Selection Panel, which granted 'in-principal' approval in November 2016.
4. The first ten of places selected in 2016 to become Heritage Action Zones and the lead partner for each project are:
  - Sutton (town centre) – London Borough of Sutton
  - Heart of Nottingham – Nottingham Heritage Panel
  - Coventry – Coventry City Council
  - Ramsgate – Ramsgate Coastal Community Team
  - Weston's Hidden Heritage – North Somerset Council

<sup>1</sup> <https://content.historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/committees-panels/urban-panel-reference.pdf>

- King's Lynn – Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk
- Sunderland Historic High Streets – Sunderland City Council
- Appleby Conservation Area (Eden District Council)
- Hull Old Town (Hull City Council)
- Elsecar: the Earl's village of iron and coal, Barnsley (Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council)

*What is a Heritage Action Zone (HAZ)?*

5. The Heritage Action Zone initiative was published in the Government's Culture White Paper (2016).<sup>2</sup>
6. 'The aim of a Heritage Action Zone is to achieve economic growth by using the historic environment as a catalyst. A Heritage Action Zone will provide a targeted response to the economic, social and environmental needs of a particular area. Through Heritage Action Zones, [Historic England] will work with local partners to deliver and implement a programme of support that best meets these local requirements.'<sup>3</sup>

*Heritage Action Zone - key benefits*

7. HAZ will co-fund a post to deliver the schemes included in the zone.
8. HAZ bids can cover the costs of feasibility studies, masterplanning, site options appraisals, which are usually more difficult to fund as they are upfront costs incurred by developers
9. Applications from HAZ areas for Historic England, Heritage Lottery Fund, The Architectural Heritage Fund and other heritage and culture related funds will be prioritised over applications from non-HAZ areas. The Borough Council has secured £7.7m grant funding over the past ten years from the HLF. Current schemes include the Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) and the Heritage Hunstanton Gardens. A bid for £2.2m funding for St George's Guildhall complex is currently being assessed by the HLF.
10. Having LEPs involved in the HAZ, will present new opportunities to apply to LEPs for funding to deliver some of the HAZ schemes (as long as they are aligned to LEP priorities and deliver jobs and homes).

*King's Lynn HAZ boundary*

11. The proposed King's Lynn Heritage Action Zone contains 462 listed buildings (17 Grade I, 55 Grade II\* and 390 Grade II) and 6 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM) which showcase the heritage of King's Lynn and highlight its historic local, national and international importance.
12. King's Lynn Heritage Action Zone proposal is shown in Appendix 1.

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<sup>2</sup>

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/510798/DCMS\\_The\\_Culture\\_White\\_Paper\\_3\\_.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/510798/DCMS_The_Culture_White_Paper_3_.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Historic England (2016), *Guidance for Producing a Heritage Action Zone Delivery Plan*

### *King's Lynn HAZ proposal – intervention logic framework*

13. King's Lynn HAZ proposal includes a series of interventions and projects aimed at achieving the programme's objectives of stimulating and delivering local economic growth. The key elements of King's Lynn's HAZ proposal are summarised in the Intervention Logic Framework (Appendix 2).

### *King's Lynn HAZ proposal – governance and management*

14. One of the critical success factors for a HAZ proposal is demonstrating that the bid is supported by a strong partnership, which includes key partners, such as the two LEPs and representatives of the local business community.
15. A key requirement for all HAZs is to be overseen by a Partnership Team. It is proposed that the King's Lynn HAZ Partnership Team will be chaired by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Projects and Assets and include the Cabinet Member for Culture, Heritage and Health, the Borough Council's Heritage Champion and representatives from the Borough Council, Norfolk County Council, Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough and New Anglia LEPs, West Norfolk Chamber of Commerce and King's Lynn Town Centre Partnership as well as Historic England.
16. King's Lynn HAZ will be implemented by a Borough Council Delivery Team, which includes officers from property, regeneration & economic development, planning, conservation, housing, finance and communications.
17. A key stakeholder group will be formed and include the following organisations: King's Lynn Preservation Trust, King's Lynn Civic Society, Freebridge Housing Association and relevant resident and community groups. The key stakeholder group will be consulted on specific issues as and when required.
18. The proposed governance and management arrangements are illustrated in Appendix 3.

### **Options considered**

#### Option 1 – submit a King's Lynn wide proposal

19. The key advantage of submitting a town wide proposal is that it offers more flexibility in terms of sites and premises that can be included in the proposal. On the other hand, a town wide approach could appear to have a diluted focus if interventions are only small in scale and scattered throughout the town. This can be mitigated by ensuring that HAZ interventions are designed to address the key issues summarised in the Intervention Logic Framework and deliver tangible social, economic and environmental results.

#### Option 2 – Submit an area based proposal

20. The key advantage of an area based proposal is that it can offer a more focused intervention, but unlike a town wide approach it limits the number of sites and premises that are included in the scope of the proposal.

#### Option 3 – Do nothing

21. This option has been discounted on the basis that gaining a HAZ designation would present new opportunities and benefits that would enable the Borough Council to attract additional resources to stimulate local economic growth.

### *Preferred option*

22. At its meeting on 31 August 2016, the Regeneration and Development Panel supported the submission of a HAZ application based on Option 1.

### *Next steps*

23. Delivery Plan agreed – March 2017

24. The Delivery Plan will include a clear timetable for implementation. The King's Lynn Heritage Action Zone is envisaged to be delivered over a five-year period between April 2017 and March 2022.

### **Policy Implications**

This proposal meets the Corporate Business Plan's strategic priorities of driving local economic and housing growth and celebrating our local heritage and culture.

### **Financial Implications**

HAZ will attract direct funding from Historic England – there is notional allocation of £300,000. The final amount will be decided once the Delivery Plan has been agreed. There is an element of match funding required and this will be accommodated via capital schemes already included in the current capital programme.

### **Personnel Implications**

The proposal includes the creation of a Fixed Term 3-5 years HAZ Delivery role to be co-funded on a 50:50 basis with Historic England. The *'Investing in our Future - a service review across Property Services, Regeneration / Economic Development, Corporate Projects and Housing Development Strategy'* (2016) has made provisions for the role, so there are no additional cost implications. The new role will report to the Regeneration, Heritage and Economic Development Manager.

### **Statutory Considerations**

No statutory implications. The HAZ status does not change the existing regulations regarding conservation areas nor does it impact on the existing planning policies.

### **Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)**

(Pre screening report template attached)

### **Risk Management Implications**

The implementation of the HAZ Delivery Plan will be assessed through the Borough Council risk management framework, as the Borough Council's capital schemes.

### **Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted**

### **Background Papers**



## Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

Name of policy/service/function	Heritage Action Zone				
Is this a new or existing policy/ service/function?	New				
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened. Please state if this policy/service rigidly constrained by statutory obligations	To achieve economic growth by using the historic environment as a catalyst. HAZ will provide a targeted response to the economic, social and environmental needs of a particular area.				
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups <b>according to their different protected characteristic</b>, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age			x	
	Disability			x	
	Gender			x	
	Gender Re-assignment			x	
	Marriage/civil partnership			x	
	Pregnancy & maternity			x	
	Race			x	
	Religion or belief			x	
	Sexual orientation			x	
	Other (eg low income)			x	
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Comments</b>			
2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?	No				
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?	No				
4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?	No				
<p>5. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions?</p> <p>If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section</p>	No	<b>Actions:</b>			
		<b>Actions agreed by EWG member:</b> .....			
<b>Assessment completed by:</b> Name O Paparega					
<b>Job title: Regeneration Heritage and Economic Development Manager</b>	<b>Date 7.2.17</b>				