

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY OFFICERS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

This is a record of a decision taken by an officer under delegated powers and where necessary taken in consultation with members and officers.

FURTHER FEASIBILITY WORK ON THE KASET SKATE PARK AT LYNNSPORT

Delegated Power

Council Constitution

Part 3 – Responsibilities for Council Functions

Section 2 – Functions Delegated to Cabinet Members and Officers – Scheme of Delegation

Cabinet Decision 15th November 2022

1. That the Council, with the support of Alive West Norfolk progress the work to move to cost certainty for the project by providing funding of £110,942
2. That delegated authority be granted to the Council's Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for People and Communities and Portfolio Holder for Finance, that, following resolution on some outstanding queries on the proposed business case, funding of £110,942 is allocated from earmarked reserves to engage consultants to prepare a cost certainty model to inform a final business case on which a decision can be made.

Decision Taken

The Council's Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for People and Communities and Portfolio Holder for Finance, is satisfied that funding of £110,942 is allocated from earmarked reserves to engage consultants to prepare a cost certainty model to inform a final business case on which a decision can be made.

Reasons for the Decision

The Kaset skatepark provides an area specifically aimed at skateboarding which limits the prospective service users. Kaset does not achieve high attendance numbers and does not, in turn, provide a profit. This project is designed to improve the offer to the boroughs residents further by investigating in a Feasibility Study to provide a state of-the-art Activity Centre, which will offer a range of activities, aimed at children of all ages, thus creating a more inclusive and appealing leisure interest for our communities. If the project is to proceed, a cost certainty model will provide the council with the data to support the decision-making process and demonstrate if the project is affordable and will provide a return on investment for the council.

The Cabinet delegated authority to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for People and Communities and Portfolio Holder for Finance following the resolution of some outstanding queries from finance. These queries have now been resolved to the satisfaction of the Project Accountant having discussed with relevant Officers and supplied with the supporting evidence.

Options considered

1. **Do nothing** – The Kaset currently operates at a financial loss. Over time the facility will dilapidate and need further investment to keep it attractive to users and to comply with safety requirements. Financially, this option is not considered realistic when the council's budgets are squeezed due to the removal of the Revenue Support Grant and the prevailing inflation increases.
2. **Marketing and Sports Development initiatives** – this approach has been followed before with limited success. As the cost-of-living crisis deepens and residents limit their spend on sport and leisure, the narrow appeal of the skatepark could result in less income being received
3. **Explore alternative options** – this option gives the council an opportunity to invest in the Kaset to create an environment which has a broad appeal to young people and families. With little local competition of similar venues, it is hoped a new facility would prove appealing to residents and provide an area for play and associated physical activity for children of all ages.
4. **Close the Kaset** – The loss of a skatepark would have wider implications in respect of the grant which was obtained by the council to build the Kaset as well as leaving Lynnsport without a skatepark facility, leaving users looking for alternative areas to skate which could compromise safety as well as compound the problem of anti-social behaviour which is already experienced at the Lynnsport site.

Any declarations of interest and details of any dispensations granted in respect of interests.

Cllr Graham Middleton is a Cabinet Member and also a Director of Alive West Norfolk

List of Background papers

Cabinet Report – 15th November 2022

Authorisation

Post Held Assistant Director of Finance



Signature

Date **24/11/2022**

Consultation with members/officers

If the decision is taken following consultation with the members/officers, please give details:

Signed by Member as consulted:



Cllr Angie Dickinson, Portfolio Holder for Finance

Date **1/12/2022**

Signed by Member as consulted:



Cllr Sam Sandell, Portfolio Holder for People and Communities

Date **1/12/2022**

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

Borough Council of
King's Lynn & West Norfolk



Name of policy/service/function		FURTHER FEASIBILITY WORK ON THE KASET SKATE PARK AT LYNNSPORT				
Is this a new or existing policy/ service/function?		New-/ Existing (delete as appropriate)				
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		Provide funding for further feasibility work on the potential for an Activity Centre at the Kaset Skatepark				
Question		Answer				
<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 according to their different protected characteristic, 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			
Question		Answer	Comments			
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?		Yes / No				
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?		Yes / No				
4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?		Yes / No				
<p>5. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions? If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section</p>		Yes / No	Actions:			
			Actions agreed by EWG member: Name ...H Howell.....			
Assessment completed by: Name Honor Howell						
Job title Assistant to the Chief Executive		Date 21.11.22				
Please Note: If there are any positive or negative impacts identified in question 1, or there any 'yes' responses to questions 2 – 4 a full impact assessment will be required.						

