

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**REGENERATION & DEVOLUTION
CABINET MEMBER**

CREATION OF SSE PROGRAMME STAFFING

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1. To approve the creation of one new part time fixed term post to administer the SSE Programme – namely the North Lincolnshire Sustainable Development Fund and Keadby Sustainable Development Fund.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1. The council receives £340,000 per year from the British energy firm SSE plc. Of this, £170,000 per year is for the Axholme North area, with a further £170,000 available to the whole of North Lincolnshire.
- 2.2. The aim of the fund is to resource community projects that deliver against the following 3 priorities:
- Increase job opportunities and employment
 - Enable communities to develop renewable energy schemes
 - Enhance the natural built environment
- 2.3. The fund has operated flexibly since its inception in 2014. It has funded many community activities. However, current lack of dedicated staffing for the programme has limited promotion, marketing and coordination of the fund. This has led to lower take up of the fund than originally envisaged. It is therefore proposed to recruit a part time post to resource this.
- 2.4. The council acts as the Accountable Body for the two funds. A Board for each fund is in place to oversee the allocation of funding. The steering group comprises representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors. Relevant Ward Councillors sit on the Steering Group.
- 2.5. The proposed structure for delivering the SSE Programme is to have a part-time (0.5 FTE) Programme Support Officer. The post will facilitate and support the Boards in their decision making including providing the secretariat for both groups. Further, the post will help to develop the SSE Programme ensuring compliance with regulatory and audit requirements, and delivery against budget and outputs, liaising with SSE, parish councils, the community and other stakeholders regarding

all aspects of the programme. The Support Officer will undertake project monitoring and evaluation and will provide administrative and financial support for the Programme, overseeing the Marketing and Communications Plan for the Programme.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1. The recommendation is to approve the post on a two year fixed term basis.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1. Appointing the post will enable more effective delivery and administration of the SSE Programme.

4.2. Not appointing the post would result in insufficient capacity to enable the funds to be accessed and awarded to local projects.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1. The cost of the post in question amounts to £11,314.50 per year (£22,629.00 in total), based on a 0.5 FTE grade 5 post inclusive of on-costs. This would be funded externally by SSE. Specific funding is allocated within the SSE fund towards administration and management costs.

5.2. There are no other resource implications to highlight.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACTASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1. Not applicable.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1. SSE were consulted on this proposal and are in support.

7.2. There are no known conflicts of interest to highlight.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1. That the Cabinet Member approves the creation of the fixed term post.

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

None