ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

ROTHESAY TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PHASE TWO, HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND OFFER OF AWARD

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Following a successful Townscape Heritage (TH) stage one bid to Heritage Lottery Fund a grant of £109,700 has been awarded to the Council to enable the development of a second phase regeneration project for Rothesay, Rothesay Townscape Heritage (TH). The offer of grant, dated 26th January 2016, requires the Council's formal acceptance of the offer and its agreement to the associated terms and conditions. This report therefore requests that Members delegate authority to the Chief Executive of the Council to sign the Terms of Grant document, which will accept the grant conditions, enable drawdown of funds and allow the development work to commence.
- 1.2 Securing a TH is a two-stage process and as such the development work will support and culminate in a second round bid to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in 2017, which will seek to secure permission to deliver the regeneration project over a five-year period.(2018-2023).

COUNCIL

21ST APRIL 2016

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This report asks Members to approve the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Terms of Grant, in relation to a first round grant award of £109,700, awarded to the Council on 26th January 2016. The grant will fund development work, which is required to support and inform a second regeneration project in Rothesay - Rothesay Townscape Heritage. This report requests that Members delegate authority to the Chief Executive of the Council to sign this aforementioned document, which will accept the grant and its conditions, enable the drawdown of the award, and allow the development work to commence.

3.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 The Council agrees to the HLF Terms of Grant and delegates authority to the Chief Executive to sign and agree the terms with HLF.

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4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 At their meeting of 20th August 2015, the Policy and Resources Committee agreed that the Council should submit a first round application to HLF to seek funding for a second phase of regeneration in Rothesay, which would continue and build on the momentum of the successful Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI), which concludes on 31st March 2016. At the meeting, the Policy and Resources Committee also agreed to the need to identify match funding of up to £200,000.
- 4.2 The first of a two-stage process has been successful, with an award from HLF of £109,700 dated 26th January 2016. This award will fund a first round development phase of a year to support and inform a subsequent robust and deliverable second round bid.
- 4.3 Subject to a successful second round bid, HLF have earmarked £1,889,700 for a Rothesay TH project, which would require match funding to be identified bythe Council of up to £200,000, and a match funding contribution from HIE. It is also intended to use the development year to scope out other potential funding avenues, particularly those relative to Sustrans, Leader and CARS to ensure that the resulting project is as meaningful as possible.
- 4.4 The focus of the TH will be much more holistic than that of the current project, and as such will seek to involve the community at every opportunity. Feedback and actions from the Rothesay Charrette, a community consultation and master planning exercise, held in February 2016, will shape the direction and scope of the TH project. It is also intended to work closely with the Rothesay Alliance for Action, the organisation which commissioned the Charrette and which will also seek to deliver outcomes within the Charrette action plan, which are complementary to the work proposed for the TH development phase.
- 4.5 The development work will encompass detailed building survey analysis, cost and valuation analysis and work on specific pilot projects around energy efficiency, factoring and creative industry pop-up spaces and workshops. It will also consider the movement and flow of visitors and shoppers around the

town centre and how this could be improved with enhanced signage and interpretation, and also seek to enhance navigation of the route to the Pavilion. The development phase will be undertaken in close liaison with the Pavilion Project to ensure projects complement each other and there are synergies.

- 4.6 A program of training and events which will seek to celebrate the Isle of Bute's unique and special characteristics will be developed and work will be undertaken to raise the profile of the area for visitors through market and branding analysis.
- 4.7 The award from HLF will also enable the recruitment of a dedicated officer to manage and deliver this piece of development work, and to submit the body of work alongside a second stage application to HLF in due course.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 This first round development grant from HLF will allow the Council to build on the successes of the THI (concluded 31 March 2016), and to continue this momentum, whilst working closely with the community and key partners. The Council is therefore invited to agree to the terms and conditions of this grant award and to delegate authority to the Chief Executive in order to commence this development work.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy

None

- 6.2 Financial The Policy and Resources Committee agreed to the need to identify up to £200,000 over the proposed fiveyear delivery period, which, subject to a successful second round bid, is likely to commence within latter half of the 2017/2018 financial year.
- 6.3 Legal As per the Terms of Grant which are attached to this

report.

6.4 HR Funding from HLF includes the provision of a TH development officer. This post will sit within Projects and Regeneration and will be recruited as a dedicated officer to manage and deliver the project.

- 6.5 Equalities None
- 6.6 Risk None
- 6.7 Customer Services None

Pippa Milne, Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Policy Lead, Councillor Aileen Morton

29th February 2016

For further information contact: Lorna Pearce, THI Project Officer, 01700 501 374

APPENDICES

Appendix 1- HLF Terms of Grant