Dear Councillor,

Delegated Decisions Register

Please find enclosed a copy of the following report that is to be considered by the relevant Portfolio Holder:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision Reference</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017/06</td>
<td>Use of S.106 money for public art in Leek Town Centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you wish to submit any comments, please forward them in writing to the Portfolio Holder, with a copy to the Officer who wrote the report, prior to the date the decision will be taken, which in this case will be no sooner than 7th September 2017.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Trafford

Pat Trafford
Member Services Officer

Encs.
1. **Reason for the Report**

1.1 To seek approval for the use of S.106 money from the Sainsbury’s scheme towards public art works to be delivered jointly in partnership with Leek College.

2. **Recommendations**

2.1 To approve the use of the S.106 contribution for public art works from the Sainsbury’s scheme towards the project proposed in this report.

2.2 To note and approve the approach proposed to work in partnership with Leek College as described in this report.

3. **Executive Summary**

3.1 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council has an allocation of funds from Section 106 planning conditions laid down as part of the approval of the establishment of the Sainsbury store in Leek. This allocation is for the creation of public art in Leek town centre prior to 2021.

3.2 Buxton & Leek College has recently completed a multi-million pound investment in new facilities within Leek, including significant investment & expansion of the ‘Leek School of Art’ specialist curriculum and facilities at the Stockwell Street campus which has a long and prestigious history dating back over 175 years.
3.3 The College campus is next to the Nicholson Museum & Art Gallery. At present, there is no visual sign or feature notifying passersby of a regionally important art gallery and art college.

3.4 The project would utilise S.106 contributions to establish a ‘public art competition’ amongst Level 6 undergraduates, and following a shortlisting process, a winning design will be selected and installed at an appropriate location, preferably visible from Stockwell Street.

3.5 The project is anticipated to provide a platform for the young students to show their talent and be part of Leek’s continuing journey in art.

4. How this Report Links with Corporate Priorities

4.1 The report links Corporate Plan 2015-19; Aim 3: To help create a strong economy by supporting further regeneration of towns and villages; as it will enhance an entrance to key local employment premises and skill provider.

5. Options

5.1 There are two principle options:-

Option 1 - Do nothing,
Alternative public art project would need to be developed or S.106 contribution returned to developer. An alternative public art scheme might be time consuming to develop and require additional council resources, such as planning application fees and longer term maintenance liabilities. In addition, Buxton & Leek campus would continue to lack any signifying entrance feature

Not recommended

Option 2 – Award the money to Leek College and support the students in implementing a winning artwork in Leek.
Leek College and its art course is best placed to use this money for the wider good of the community. This will support Leek College in establishing the presence in the town centre. This will provide an opportunity to young students in Leek to show their talent. This project is in line with the Council’s efforts to support the creative industries in Leek.

Recommended

6. Implications

6.1 Community Safety - (Crime and Disorder Act 1998)
Buxton & Leek College will be responsible for all public safety issues & liabilities for design and installation.
6.2 Workforce
None

6.3 Equality and Diversity/Equality Impact Assessment
Buxton & Leek College will be responsible for all equality & diversity issues both in the operation of the competition and installation process. Any public art work installed would need to maintain public pedestrian access routes and not prevent people with disabilities, including wheelchair users from using these route ways.

6.4 Financial Considerations
Total £25,297 is available in the S106 pot. The agreement also states accrued interest should also be applied to the project which will be c. £800 (changing on a daily basis) by Spring 2019 (considering the current Bank of England base rate).

Buxton & Leek College have confirmed that if the installation costs exceed the available budget, the College will be responsible for funding this gap.

The winning artwork design will be sited in the vicinity of the College entrance on Stockwell Street, Leek, on land in BLC ownership and all long term maintenance and liabilities will rest with the college.

6.5 Legal
A grant agreement will need to be drafted for the transfer of the money with suitable conditions attached.

6.6 Sustainability
None.

6.7 Internal and External Consultation
Development control including Conservation.

6.8 Risk Assessment
There are no significant risks attached to this proposal. College will need to follow their own risk management process as part of the installation of the works.

Dai Larner
Executive Director for Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Web Links and Background Papers</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMD/2013/0613</td>
<td>Buxton &amp; Leek College, Stockwell Street campus, Leek</td>
<td>Pranali Parikh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. **Background and Introduction**

7.1 Leek School of Art is a specialist curriculum team within Buxton & Leek College with its roots in Leek dating back over 175 years. The recent investment by the University of Derby has provided a significant new building on the College site.

7.2 The Decision Notice issued in October 2013 for the redevelopment of the campus (SMD/2013/0613) approved the principle of an entrance feature of ‘metal fretted archway and bespoke railings’ subject to a detailed design being submitted and approved. Any public artwork which falls outside of this description will require separate planning permission, depending on the size, scale and nature of the artwork proposed.

7.3 The Art School already provides a wide range of programmes from basic beginners' recreational classes through to the flagship Foundation Degree in Contemporary Art & Design Practice. From the 2017/18 academic year, this includes a new Level 6 programme to allow previous graduates from the Foundation Degree with a route to 'top-up' to a full Honours Degree. The first cohort will complete the programme in June 2018.

7.4 To provide a real-world dimension to the first cohort, it is proposed to incorporate the development of a prototype for the piece of public art as a competition. A public consultation exercise will be carried out to allow the residents of Leek to comment on the initial concepts. Students will develop their ideas further, incorporating the comments from consultation and work these into a final presentation and exhibition piece.

7.5 A Council representative will be part of the judging panel who will select a 'winner' from the and once selected, the winning piece will be developed further (if necessary) and installed at suitable location, subject to financial viability, planning approval if necessary, highways approval (if part of public highways) etc.

7.6 SMDC reserves the right to not go ahead with implementation on site if it is considered not appropriate to proceed.

7.7 Proposed Timescales:
- Start of the term- September 2017
- Community engagement event- The Big Draw event/ Living Lines event- October 2017
- Shortlisting of proposals- December 2017
- Final proposals- Summer 2018
- Planning application (if required)- Summer 2018
- Installation- Spring 2019 (joint press release and inauguration)