

**Policy and Finance Committee – 7 March 2024**

**Littlehampton Seafront Project – Capital budget update**

This appendix provides an addendum to the main committee report. Additional funding has been made available since the project budget was approved in December 2021, therefore the report seeks approval to include this funding within the total budget allocation. This is not a request for further funding but to approve the inclusion of additional funding within the project budget.

**Background**

A budget of £7,234,201 (as part of the full £19,424,597 Levelling Up Fund grant) was approved by Policy and Finance Committee on 9 December 2021. Full Council approved acceptance of the grant on 26 January 2022.

ADC funding of £31,300 towards a Changing Places toilet at Littlehampton seafront was approved by the Economy Committee on 26 July 2022.

**Capital budget update**

A report to Policy and Finance on 6 December 2023 identified that a grant of £25k from the Council's Climate Change budget had been allocated for the inclusion of PV panels within the Littlehampton seafront project. In order for this sum to be included as part of the project expenditure, approval is needed to increase the total budget figure.

It was also noted within the report that the grant needed to be spent during 2023/24. Changes to the project programme mean that it is not possible to spend the funding within this timeframe.

In addition, the Council has received a sum of £60k from the Levelling Up Fund in 2023/24 as capability and capability grant. The Littlehampton seafront project was allocated £56k for design guardian fees as noted in the Financial Summary of the main report. This sum also needs to be formally included within the full budget allocation.

The following table summarises the total project funding. It is proposed to increase the total budget figure to £7,346,501 to formally account for additional funding made available for the project.

Professional fees (LUF grant):	549,357
Capacity and capability grant for design guardians (LUF grant)	56,000
Public realm capital works, including contingencies (LUF grant):	6,684,844
Changing Places Toilet (ADC contribution):	31,300
PV panels funding (ADC contribution)	<u>25,000</u>
	<b>7,346,501</b>

**Recommendations**

To approve the total capital project budget be increased by £81k to £7,346,501 made up of:

- a) £25k for PV panels from the Council's Climate Change budget, funded from revenue reserves offset by a corresponding underspend against the aforementioned budget; and
- b) £56k for Design Guardians, funded from the LUF Capacity & Capability grant.