

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**

E2736

Sydney Gardens Refurbishment – Enabling Works

Decision maker/s	Cllr David Dixon, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods B&NES Cllr Paul Crossley, Leader B&NES
The Issue	Sydney Gardens Refurbishment – Enabling Works
Decision Date	02-Feb-15
The decision	<p>The Cabinet Members agree:</p> <p>To approve capital expenditure of up to £250k in order to carry out renovation works in Sydney Gardens.</p> <p>Delegated Authority to spend the above sum, on works identified by a site survey and public consultation, be granted to the Divisional Director of Environmental Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member.</p>
Rationale for decision	<p>Surveys undertaken to support a bid for HLF funding have identified that the condition of the Gardens, including some of the listed historic structures and public amenities, is in need of attention. The Council, as landowner, is obliged to maintain listed structures in good order and safe condition. Expenditure will focus on those areas identified as of highest priority in order to address poor condition and meet the requirements of site visitors.</p> <p>Although there can be no guarantee that the HLF would consider this expenditure to count as “match funding” by the Council, addressing the need to safeguard the condition of the assets within the Gardens is likely to be considered as a positive contribution whereas to stand by and allow further decline is unlikely to be seen favourably by the HLF when considering whether to support a project in the future</p>
Financial and budget implications	£250,000 – Corporate Supported Borrowing
Issues considered	Customer Focus; Sustainability; Property; Health & Safety; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Community Interest Groups; Stakeholders/Partners;
How consultation was carried out	Those consulted in preparing this report include The Council Leader, The Council Deputy Leader, Ward Members for Bathwick, Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer, Strategic Director of Place.

	The prioritisation of expenditure will be determined following further site surveys and evaluations in addition to consultation with the public, site users, local Residents Associations, the Friends of Sydney Gardens and Ward Members of Bathwick and surrounding wards and the Holburne Museum
Other options considered	To not undertake works. This would lead to further deterioration of assets and send negative signals to the HLF and would be likely to create problems in meeting our obligations as set out above. It would also mean that the Gardens would not be in a position to benefit from any mitigation funding which may be available from Network Rail.

Signatures of Decision Makers	
Date of Signature	

Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision