

## OFFICER DECISION RECORD

<b>CMT Officer:</b> Carol Pilson Corporate Director & Monitoring Officer	<b>Service:</b> Leisure Services
<b>Lead Officer:</b> Phil Hughes, Head of Leisure Services/SRO March Future High Street Project	<b>Delegated Power Being Exercised:</b> Part 3 - Responsibilities for Functions; Table 4, paragraphs:  71a To authorise the allocation of external funding awarded to the Council, the approval of the Council's acquisition of goods, services and works (whether following a procurement exercise or otherwise) <sup>25</sup> and entry in to the associated financial and legal agreements up to £100,000 in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder and Leader of the Council.
<b>Subject of Decision:</b> Acceptance of a grant from Sport England to support the development of a Built Facilities and a Playing Pitch Strategy.	

<b>Decision Taken:</b> The Head of Leisure Services considered the grant documentation supplied by Sport England and following a discussion and delegation of authority from the Corporate Director lead for this function RESOLVED to:  Accept the grant from Sport England and take the two strategy projects forwards.
<b>Reason for the Decisions:</b> FDC has a 2016 playing pitch strategy and a 2016 built sports facility strategy. Both strategies require updating.  Updated strategies will allow local sports clubs, as well as the Council, to bid more effectively for grant funding.  The strategies highlight need within the district and therefore are likely to ensure support for bids where need is demonstrated within the strategies.  The value of the grant is £25,000. The grant must be spent as match funding to support the development of a built facilities strategy and a playing pitch strategy.  The supportive funding grant reduces the costs of producing these documents that will support sports clubs and the Council in providing sports facilities for residents over the coming decade.  If a Local plan is also developed, these documents are necessary to support such work.  The strategies will also ensure that any future unitary authority is clear regarding the needs of the current Fenland area, when planning investment within the next decade.

**Alternative Options Considered** (if appropriate):

The alternative option is to not produce the strategies and reject the grant support from Sport England.

**Background/Reports/Information considered and attached:**

FDC has a 2016 playing pitch strategy and a 2016 build sports facility strategy. Both strategies require updating. Updated strategies will allow local sports clubs as well as the Council to bid more effectively for grant funding.

The strategies highlight need within the district and therefore are likely to ensure support for bids where need is demonstrated in the strategies.

**Officer's Signature:**

Phil Hughes, Head of Leisure Services

In consultation with Carol Pilson, Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer, Councillor Chris Boden, Leader of the Council and Councillor Alex Miscandlon, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and IDBs

**Date:**

22 April 2025

**Please forward to Democratic Services upon completion**

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Democratic Services**

**Implementation Date:**

**(if not called-in)**

**(Allow 5 clear working days after publication  
of decision)**

Circulation: Democratic Services, Portfolio Holder, Officer and Accountancy.