
Culture and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

**Heritage Places Funding,
National Lottery Heritage Fund**

4th November 2024

Lead director/officer: Mike Dalzell

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: All.
- Report author: Joanna Jones
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- Report version number: 1

1. Summary

1.1 This briefing provides an overview of the Heritage Places Programme which is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

2. Recommended actions/decision

2.1 To note and comment on stage one of the Heritage Places funded programme.

3. Scrutiny / stakeholder engagement

3.1 The programme is designed to involve local communities and there will be a Steering Group which will be chaired by the Assistant City Mayor (Culture, Libraries & Community Centres). The Steering Group will include both Leicester City Council and Community representatives.

4. Background and options with supporting evidence

This report sets out the background for the National Lottery Heritage Fund's (NLHF) Heritage Places Fund and Leicester's application to the fund.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund is forging long term partnerships with towns and cities across the UK as part of a 10 – year initiative to help places thrive by unlocking the potential of their heritage. The fund is called the Heritage Places Fund and is designed to boost local economies and boost pride in place.

By 2033 20 long – term projects will be transforming towns, cities and landscapes using a dedicated NLHF funding pot of £200m. Leicester has been chosen as one of these cities.

The Leicester bid is the *Leicester Inclusive Heritage* programme with a focus upon heritage and community cohesion. The project is intended to be the key planning tool that will help shape the future of Leicester's Heritage Place programme. The funding criteria requires all organisations to work with local communities.

The funding will be used as follows:

Leicester City Council is working in partnership with the Audience Agency, a national organisation which has a strong track record of audience research. The Audience Agency will analyse audience data for engagement with heritage in Leicester. Their work will

create the evidence base for identifying areas of the city and groups within the community where engagement with heritage is lower.

A Steering Group will be established which will be chaired by the Assistant City Mayor (Culture, Libraries & Community Centres). The Steering Group will include both Leicester City Council and Community representatives.

There will be 10 Community Heritage Researchers who will work within communities to enable capacity to be built and untold stories to be shared.

A part time Programme Manager will be appointed within the Arts and Museums team. They will be responsible for managing the programme, acting as the main point of contact with organisations which are participating in the project and with NLHF.

For this stage one element of the Heritage Places programme the total request for funding is £250k and it is anticipated that a stage two application for a larger amount of funding will be made in the future as this is a long-term funding programme.

5. Timescale

The stage one application was submitted to NLHF in September 2024, and it is anticipated that a decision will be made by NLF regarding the funding in November 2024. If the funding is secured there will be a period of approximately a month whilst contractual arrangements are established, and the project will then commence.

6. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

6.1 Financial implications

There are no significant financial implications associated with the £250k grant bid which was submitted; no match funding was required from Leicester City Council. Finance will continue to be involved as the project progresses and as stage 2 grants bids are sought to support this programme.

Stuart McAvoy – Head of Finance
16th October 2024

6.2 Legal implications

This report relates to Heritage Places Programme funding which is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Any funding received and any payments made will need to be assessed against the Subsidy Control Act 2022. If deemed to be a subsidy under the legislation it may need to be registered government subsidy register.

It may also be necessary to enter into a funding agreement with the funder and each recipient to ensure that the funding is used for the agreed project. Any agreement will need to include provisions to recover funds not correctly used.

Ongoing legal assistance should be sought as and when required.

Alex Powers
18.10.24

6.3 Equalities implications

When making decisions, the Council must comply with the Public-Sector Equality Duty (PSED) (Equality Act 2010) by paying due regard, when carrying out their functions, to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a 'protected characteristic' and those who do not.

Protected groups under the Equality Act are age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

Leicester has been chosen as one of the cities benefiting from the Heritage Place Fund, with bid is the Leicester Inclusive Heritage programme with a focus upon heritage and community cohesion. This should impact positively on people from across a range of protected characteristics and help communities in sharing their stories.

Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer
17 October 2024

6.4 Climate Emergency implications

There are no significant climate emergency implications directly associated with this report. As service delivery generally contributes to the council's carbon footprint, any impacts could be managed as part of any commissioning, such as encouraging the use of sustainable travel options, using buildings and materials efficiently and following the council's sustainable procurement guidance, as appropriate and relevant to the options selected.

Aidan Davis, Sustainability Officer, Ext 37 2284

6.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

None

8. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?

No

10. Is this a “key decision”? If so, why?

No