

## CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

### COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>Town Hall, Assets &amp; Services Committee Meeting</b>		
<b>MEETING DATE AND TIME</b>	<b>30<sup>TH</sup> November 2023</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>Congleton Town Hall</b>
<b>REPORT FROM</b>	<b>Town Hall Manager – Mark Worthington</b>		
<b>AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>8 Decarbonisation of Town Hall</b>		
<b>Background</b>	<p>At the Town Hall, Assets and Services Committee, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023, Cllr Suzy Firkin made a statement under Urgent Items in relation to the Decarbonisation of the Town Hall. Committee members were informed of the offer of support from Cheshire East Council for a grant application relating to decarbonisation projects highlighted in the Tomson Consulting Decarbonisation report, which was commissioned by Town Council in 2022. It was noted at this stage there was no financial commitment required from the Town Council and minimal officer time required for this application.</p>		
<b>Update</b>	<p>A grant funding application for Phase 3c of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme was submitted on behalf of Congleton Town Council to Salix Finance before the application deadline on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Salix Finance contacted Town Council on 20<sup>th</sup> October with the information that, due to technical issues, applicants were prevented from uploading supporting documentation before the deadline. For this reason Salix Finance were disregarding applications already received and the Application Portal would be re-run with a new deadline.</p> <p>The grant application was re-submitted on behalf of Congleton Town Council before the new deadline of Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November. Salix Finance have confirmed that a grant funding application for Phase 3c of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme was submitted on behalf of Congleton Town Council, for the following value:</p> <p>£61,802 grant spend in financial year 2024/25</p> <p>£300,000 grant spend in financial year 2025/26</p> <p>On confirmation of a successful grant application, a commitment would be required by Town Council to contribute £53,000 in the delivery of Town Hall decarbonisation projects, in line with the</p>		

	<p>scheme's criteria. The figure of £53,000 is based on the cost equivalent to replace the gas boilers like for like. As the designated Authorising Official for the grant application the Chief Officer has replied to Salix Finance to confirm all information is accurate and Town Council wishes to move forward with this grant application. Salix representative will contact Town Council Officers while processing the grant application with specific questions about any proposed projects detailed in the Tomson Consulting Decarbonisation Report. Committee members will be updated throughout the grant application process.</p>
<b>Financial</b>	<p>The commitment to the delivery of the project £53,000 could be funded through the Capital Expenditure Ear Marked Reserve subject to approval from the Council</p>
<b>Environmental</b>	<p>Recommendations made within the Tomson Consulting Decarbonisation report, if fully implemented, are estimated to have the combined impact of reducing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenhouse gas emissions by 78.1 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (an 83% reduction compared to present)</li> <li>• Operating costs by £13,341 per year at the current tariffs (a 48% reduction compared to present)</li> </ul>
<b>Equality</b>	<p>Where applicable in the procurement of services and the delivery of the project matters relating to equality will be taken into consideration</p>
<b>Decision Request</b>	<p>To receive the report relating to the Decarbonisation of the Town Hall and for Committee members to recommend to Council the required expenditure of match funding of up to £53,000, should the project progress to the implementation phase, as part of the Salix Finance Phase 3c Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme grant application.</p>