



**REGENERATION AND PUBLIC
PROTECTION CABINET MEMBER MEETING
28th August 2019**

ITEM 5

Report sponsor: Greg Jennings, Director for
Development & Growth
Report author: Andy Smart, Regeneration
Manager

Narrow Boat: Local Growth Fund grant proposal to Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust.

Purpose

- 1.1 To approve an additional grant of £23,000 for the proposed narrow boat to the Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust (“D and S CT”). The additional grant of £23,000 will provide improved facilities, such as for people with disabilities and low emission electric power to propel the boat, and will be funded through the approved Connected Cycle City and Placemaking programme of activity.

Recommendation

- 2.1 To approve a grant of an additional £23,000 to the Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust for the narrow boat, increasing the existing approved grant of £55,000 to £78,000, funded from the approved Connected Cycle City and Placemaking project as outlined in paragraph 7.1.

Reason

- 3.1 Additional grant funding is required to deliver improvements to the proposed narrow boat. Delivery of the narrow boat is a key activity for the Council to re-animate the river Derwent, bringing activity and better connecting the city centre with Darley Abbey and the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site.
- 3.2 Cabinet Member approval is required in order to comply with the Council’s Contract and Financial Procedure rules.

Supporting information

- 4.1 We have been working with the D and S CT for many years and this investment will put in place not just a narrow boat, but also deliver Regeneration and Tourism activity to the river corridor, complementing OCOR and the DVWHS.
- 4.2 A £55,000 grant was approved by Council Cabinet in November 2018. This grant was approved to deliver a more basic boat. As the project has developed it has become more apparent that the boat could deliver much more. The additional grant would deliver a fully compliant Equalities Act accessible boat and be powered by an electric motor, from renewable sources: photo voltaic. The main energy source would be from a traditional metered power supply on the river bank at the overnight mooring point.

- 4.3 The £23,000 additional grant is possible within the existing Connected Cycle City and Placemaking programme uncommitted budget.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 Planning permission is being sought by the D and S CT for all infrastructure related to the narrow boat's operation and it is understood that this is close to completion.

Other options

- 6.1 The Council has already approved a grant of £55,000 to provide a basic boat and fit out. We could choose not to proceed with the additional grant and the D and S CT could proceed with a more traditional boat; however the additional grant would deliver something far more in tune with our aspirations and the city's tradition of exemplar creativity and innovation.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 The Connected Cycle City and Placemaking programme is an approved £1.9m programme being funded by a £1.6m Local Growth Fund allocation from the LEP and £250,000 Council funding. This additional grant allocation of £23,000 can be contained within the programme budget.

- 7.2 The grant award will support the City Centre Masterplan of creating;

A Connected City

A City of Choice

Legal implications

- 8.1 The total revised £78,000 grant proposed is within the de-minimus grant limit of 200,000 euros (£182,000) for State Aid purposes and therefore does not raise any State Aid concerns.
- 8.2 The grant will be awarded on the Council's standard terms of grant and will be subject to review by Legal Services.

Other significant implications

- 9.1 The boat will be Equalities Act compliant. The design will be subjected to an Equalities Impact Assessment.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	Emily Feenan, Interim Director of Legal, Procurement and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer.	
Finance	Amanda Fletcher Head of Finance , Corporate Finance	
Service Director(s)	Greg Jennings, Director for Regeneration & Growth	
Report sponsor	Catherine Williams, Head of Regeneration & Major Projects	
Other(s)		

Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	None