

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted for the Officer or Executive Member
[NO]

Any conflict with any Member of the Panel and the bodies concerned **[NO]**

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: Legal and Community

1. DECISION TAKEN

1.1 The approval of the allocation of **North Herts Prosperity Fund (NHPF)** funding of:

1.1.1 **£10,660** to PIRTON SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB for new folding tables, stackable chairs, trolley, picnic benches, barbeque and storage shed.

2. DECISION TAKER

2.1 Cllr Daniel Allen, Leader of North Herts Council, in consultation with the Service Director – Legal and Community.

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

13 February 2025

4. REASON FOR DECISION

4.1 The applicant has confirmed a need for this funding and confirmed they will be able to use the funding by the hard deadline of 31 March 2025.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 There are no other reasonable alternative options.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

6.1 Consultation has taken place with the Community Partnerships team.

7. FORWARD PLAN

7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 The North Herts Prosperity Fund initially had £210,000 to allocate to Parishes and Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations.

8.2 A further £76,780 has been identified to be utilised for the Fund. Initially £66,780 in December and a further £10,000 in February.

8.3 This delegated decision confirms that application has been accepted by the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships, and Service Director.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Executive Member has delegated authority to make these Executive decisions under section 14.6.9(b)((ii)A 5 of the constitution, in consultation with the Service Director: Legal & Community. That decision will be subject to a five clear working day call-in period, following publication in the Members Information Service (MIS) and on the Council's website.

9.2 This grant has been assessed against the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1. The available North Herts Prosperity Fund budget was £76,780.

10.2. Of the allocated there is a prescribed Capital/Revenue split on the funding. The proportion of spend will be £43,715 capital funding and £23,065 revenue funding.

10.3. £17,169 has been utilised on a grant funding provided to the Letchworth Garden City Community Group in a decision made on Friday 3rd January 2025 which left **£59,611** remaining.

10.4 £34,289.33 was agreed in a decision on the 9th January for two grants to Howard Garden Social Centre and Walsworth Community Centre. Leaving a balance of **£25,321.67**

10.5 It is possible that when all applications have been taken into account that the prescribed capital / revenue split may not be met as set out in paragraph 10.2. However, this has been reviewed in the context of spend against the overall UKSPF grant and this variance does not create a problem. This has been confirmed by the Economic Development Officer and S151 Officer.

10.6 Any monies remaining after the completion of the North Herts Prosperity Fund process will be returned to the overall UKSPF underspent budget to be utilised by 31 March 2025.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Good Risk Management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered.

11.2 There is a requirement for allocated funds to be spent by the end of March 2025. Therefore, there is a risk that we will have to request the return of funds from applicants where projects have not been completed on time. This is assessed as unlikely, as the application process included an assessment of each applicant's ability to commence their project as soon as funding is available and to progress work in a timely manner.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 12.2 North Herts Prosperity Fund monies are awarded to groups that clearly demonstrate positive impact on the community and wider environment. The projects outlined in this report seek to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and “go local” policy do not apply to the matters contained within this report, as there are no recommendations on procurement.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 The Fund’s criteria enabled application for projects related to environment and climate. In addition to this, in further developing the criteria and scoring process applicants were asked to confirm which of the Council’s priorities their project supported.

- 14.2 With regard to the BBQ, the applicant has undertaken research into the options available. There are varying opinions about whether gas or charcoal are more environmentally friendly and sustainable, and it all depends on what type of gas or the source of the charcoal

Analysis by experts at the University of Illinois highlights the fact that although charcoal emits twice the carbon dioxide emissions when burnt as the propane used to fire a gas BBQ, propane is derived from fossil fuels and there will be environmental impacts associated with the refining process. However, it also notes that GHG emissions from grills and BBQs account for a tiny fraction of total GHG emissions so there are other changes you can make that will play a more meaningful role in helping you be more environmentally friendly when you BBQ.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 The activities of the Community & Partnership team are covered by existing budgets.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 Terms of Reference for the District Wide Community Facilities Capital & Revenue Grants Panel can be found on the Council’s website [Terms of reference](#)

- 16.2 [UK Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus](#)

- 16.3 [North Herts Prosperity Fund Criteria](#)

- 16.4 [Community Grants Policy, 9th May 2023](#)

17. APPENDICES

- 17.1 See website links above.

NOTIFICATION DATE


14.02.25

Signature of Service Director Consulted



Date: 13.02.25

Signature of Leader of North Herts Council

Decision Taker 

**Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.
Call-in does not apply to NON-EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**