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**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 30 APRIL 2024**

**SUBJECT: LONG-TERM TOWN FUND**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND  
FINANCE)**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek delegated authority from the Committee in relation to funding opportunities through the Elgin Town Board
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (F) (2) to exercise the statutory functions of the Council in relation to economic development in terms of paragraph 171 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1984.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that Committee approve delegation to the Head of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and the Strategic Leadership Forum (SLF - extended for this purpose as set out in the report) to develop and submit to the Elgin Town Board priority packages relating to the themes of Community Safety and Security, High Streets Heritage and Regeneration and Transport and Connectivity.**

**3. ELGIN TOWN BOARD FUNDING CALL FOR IDEAS**

- 3.1 The Elgin Town Board will be responsible for the development and delivery of projects associated with the £20 million funding from the UK Government for Elgin with the themes for delivery identified as Community Safety and Security , High Streets Heritage and Regeneration and Transport and Connectivity.
- 3.2 To develop the plan the Town Board will be calling for ideas from partners and the community. In terms of the Councils Grant Policy, applications for funding can only be made for projects with Committee approval.

- 3.3 The timescales for submission of priority packages and the development of a delivery plan will not allow new projects to be considered by Committee prior to submitting them to the Town Board and therefore delegated authority is sought to submit projects under the 3 themes Community Safety and Security , High Streets Heritage and Regeneration and Transport and Connectivity. Priority in terms of development will be given to those projects with existing Committee approvals where they meet the objectives under the 3 themes. To support this process, a briefing was submitted to SLF in April and copied to Elgin Members followed by a period for feedback on ideas with a view to a draft list of priority packages for submission being reviewed by the extended SLF (Including Elgin Members) in May.
- 3.4 It will be essential that any proposals whether from the Council or others do not have any long-term financial implications for the Council, for example by adding to maintenance obligations, without Council approval. It is proposed that once a draft delivery plan is prepared by the Elgin Town Board, this is reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer and any projects that have financial implications for the Council would need to be reported to Council prior to the Town board finalising their plan.
- 3.5 It is likely a draft investment plan will be produced by June.
- 3.6 The approval of projects for inclusion in the investment plan will be a matter for the Elgin Town Board.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

The Long-Term Fund for Towns will contribute to the Corporate Plan priority of promoting economic development and growth.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

The Moray Council Grant Policy requires that any applications made for grant funding are only done so for Projects that have received Committee approval. Delegated authority is being sought to apply to Elgin Town Board with projects suitable for the delivery plan.

**(c) Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report. Approval would enable officers to develop projects against each of the themes within the Elgin Long Term Town Fund in consultation with the Strategic Leadership Forum and Chief Financial Officer.

**(d) Risk Implications**

The development of interventions and projects for the Elgin Town Board by the Council and others, presents a risk that projects are developed with long term financial implications for the Council. Officers will manage the process of Council proposals in consultation with the Strategic Leadership Forum and it is proposed that any projects selected by the

Town Board that could have long term financial implication for the Council will be reported to the Council for approval in June.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

This will be carried out by officers within Economic Growth and Development with the Strategic Planning and Delivery Manager leading the process.

**(f) Property**

No direct implications dependant on the proposals that come forward.

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

Equalities and Socio Impact Assessments for each project will be updated as part of the project development.

**(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts**

The climate change and biodiversity impacts will be considered as proposals are developed.

**(i) Consultations**

Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), the Head of Economic Growth and Development, the Legal Services Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Equal Opportunities Officer, Strategic Planning and Delivery Manager, Climate Change Officer, and Lissa Rowan (Committee Services Officer).

**5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 The report seeks delegated authority for the Head of Economic Growth and Development in consultation with the extended Strategic Leadership forum to develop and submit proposals to the Elgin Town Board for the Long-Term Town Fund.**

Author of Report: Jim Grant, Head of Economic Growth and Development  
Background Papers:

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