

**11 January 2018****Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR PLACE****MINER TO MAJOR: THE REAL SHERWOOD FOREST STAGE 2 APPLICATION****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for the County Council, in its role as lead partner for the Miner to Major Landscape Partnership Scheme, to submit the Stage 2 Application to the Heritage Lottery Fund by the published deadline in February 2018.
2. To seek approval for match funding provision as part of the Heritage Lottery Fund bid.

**Information and Advice**

3. The County Council submitted the Stage 1 application for Miner to Major (M2M) to the Heritage Lottery Fund's Landscape Partnerships programme on behalf of a group of partners, including the Forestry Commission; Friends of Moor Pond Wood; Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield; Greenwood Community Forest; Natural England; Newark and Sherwood District Council; Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust; Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire; Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; and, Sherwood Forest Trust.
4. The Stage 1 application was successful in attracting £149,000 of funding, of which the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) provided 80%, and work on the Development Stage has been underway since September 2015.
5. A number of key changes affecting both partner organisations and the funding environment have influenced the development of the Stage 2 application. These include the implementation of the Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre project, uncertainty over future funding streams for environmental management and Inspire joining the M2M Board as a partner.
6. The development work undertaken has been built in to the Stage 2 application. A 5 year programme of strategic projects has been put together under 4 key themes, with a strong emphasis on learning, skills and people:
  - Understanding Sherwood – opportunities to find out more about the hidden heritage and forgotten stories of Sherwood through its archaeology, buildings and people.
  - Connecting Sherwood – bigger, better and more connected habitats; protecting Sherwood's special species; improving access for all.
  - Skilful Sherwood – from qualifications and work experience to support heritage and jobs to opportunities for everyone to try something new, including volunteering.

- Celebrate Sherwood – new events for locals and visitors to celebrate what makes Sherwood special.

A Scheme Office would manage the programme and the overarching strands of Communication, Interpretation and Evaluation, with the County Council acting as lead partner and Accountable Body.

7. It is envisaged that the M2M Landscape Partnership Scheme would prioritise working with a number of audiences that do not traditionally engage in heritage projects within Sherwood, including the residents of former mining communities and surrounding urban areas; young people (16 – 25); families with young children; and, visitors.
8. If successful, M2M will attract c. £3.5m of investment to the wider Sherwood area over 5 years. The HLF grant would provide just under 70% of the total, with the remainder as match funding in the form of both cash and in-kind contributions. It is proposed that, as the lead partner, the County Council contributes a total of £150,000 cash match funding over the 5 years of the Scheme.

### **Other Options Considered**

9. The County Council could choose not to submit the Stage 2 application to HLF but this would mean that £3.5m of investment would be lost from the wider Sherwood area. There is also a risk that HLF could seek to claw back some or all of their £119,000 funding for the Development Stage.
10. The County Council could choose not to provide any cash match funding for the M2M Landscape Partnership Scheme. If sufficient cash match cannot be secured prior to submission of the Stage 2 application, however, it is unlikely that the bid will succeed.

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

11. The County Council is the lead partner and accountable body for the Miner to Major: the real Sherwood Forest Landscape Partnership Scheme and, as such, will need to submit the Stage 2 application on behalf of the partners.
12. The Stage 2 application will need to demonstrate that at least the first year's match funding has been secured. As part of the work on risk management, however, the County Council is seeking to ensure that the majority of the cash match funding is secured before the application is submitted.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required

## **Financial Implications**

14. The cost of the proposal is £150,000 and would be funded from within the Place Department budget.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That Committee approves the submission of the Stage 2 Application to the Heritage Lottery Fund by the published deadline in February 2018.
- 2) That Committee approves the County Council contribution of cash match funding for the Miner to Major Landscape Partnership Scheme as set out in paragraph 8 of the report.

**Adrian Smith**  
**Corporate Director, Place**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Heather Stokes, Team Manager Conservation**

## **Constitutional Comments [SLB 07/12.2017]**

15. Communities and Place Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

## **Financial Comments [RWK 11/12/2017]**

16. The financial implications are set out in the report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All