

## Environmental Grant Governance Process – for Full Council 29/03/2021

### Grant Governance

In legislation, a Council can delegate responsibility some of its statutory functions to a committee, or officer, but not to individual councillors or working groups.<sup>1</sup>

Working groups may only recommend or advise a council on how to perform its functions<sup>2</sup>, they have no delegated powers. Spending requests or decisions must be approved by a committee with powers, e.g., Finance and Policy or full council.

A council may delegate statutory functions to an officer of the council.<sup>3</sup> Such delegations should be evidenced by resolution in minutes.

### So:

The Climate Emergency Working Group have no decision-making powers and as such have no formal power to decide on a function, in this instance the giving of a grant.

Current delegation dictates that Finance and Policy have delegated power to decide on grant applications. This will not change.

- Transport and Environment as a committee with decision-making powers could recommend to F&P that an environmental grant application be approved, but not decide on the overall grant award. Transport and Environment's Terms of Reference would need to be updated to reflect this if this is decided by Full Council as an option.
- In addition, Full Council could also delegate to an officer to perform a filtering/pre-application process.

Recommend that both of the above options are approved so that if there is a large gap between meetings, an officer can recommend a grant be awarded at the next Finance and Policy meeting.

Any changes to delegated functions must be approved by full council and minuted by resolution.

JH 04/02/2021

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<sup>1</sup> Local Government Act 1972, section 101, para 2 (online). Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/section/101>

<sup>2</sup> Local Government Act, section 102 (online) Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/part/VI>

<sup>3</sup> Local Government Act 1972, section 101, para 2 (online). Available from: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/section/101>