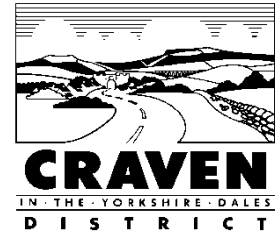


## Policy Committee – 13th December 2016

### Great Place: Crossing the 'Watersheds'



#### Lead Member: Cllr Myers

Report of the Strategic Manager Planning and Regeneration  
Ward(s) affected: All Wards

#### 1. Purpose of Report

To introduce the Great Place Scheme and seek approval for Craven District Council to be the accountable body if the funding application is successful.

#### 2. Recommendations

Members are recommended to:

- 2.1 Agree that Craven DC in partnership with South Lakeland Council will submit a funding application for the Great Place Scheme for £1,350,000.
- 2.2 Agree that £25,000 per year for three years will be earmarked from the Skipton Town Hall budget as match funding.
- 2.3 Agree that Craven DC will be the accountable body for a Great Place Scheme project.
- 2.4 Delegate authority to the Director of Services to agree terms and enter into an agreement with South Lakeland District Council and other appropriate organisations regarding the management and delivery of the Great Place scheme.

#### 3. Background to the Great Place Scheme

- 3.1 The Great Place Scheme is a funding opportunity from Arts Council England and Heritage Lottery Fund which aims to put arts, culture and heritage at the heart of the future vision within the place. In particular the Scheme wants to explore how culture can be integrated within strategies and policies to meet local social and economic priorities. Applicants must identify a problem which culture can help solve – in our case, our need for young people and young families to remain or relocate here. The successful Place will be able to access investment, advice and guidance from the national development agencies and National Lottery funders for arts, culture and heritage - Arts Council England, Heritage Lottery Fund, and Historic England.
- 3.2 The Great Place Scheme will invest in 12 places across the country to achieve the following:
  - Build on existing strengths within the local arts, culture and heritage sectors in order to maximise their positive cultural, social and economic contribution.
  - Build new partnerships to realise this contribution and lever resources into the sector to support that.
  - Develop these partnerships so that the contribution of the sector is recognised in and

supported by long term plans and strategies for the area – for instance, the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan, or destination management plans.

- 3.3 The Scheme allows for bids between £500,000 and £1,500,000 for activity to be delivered over a period of up to three years.
- 3.4 The application process asked for bids to cover single or multiple local authority areas or areas such as LEP areas.
- 3.5 This scheme is a one off process so if we are to take advantage of the scheme we needed to submit an Expression of Interest by 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and if successful a full Stage 2 application by 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017.
- 3.6 We understand that 140 Expressions of Interest were submitted in October. Our EOI has been included in the shortlist of 31 organisations invited to make a full application.
- 3.7 The intention is that the next round of full applications will identify the final 12 successful organisations. The results will be known by the end of March 2017 and the project would commence in April 2017 if our application was successful.

#### **4. Outline Application**

- 4.1 In developing the outline application the first stage was to agree the geographic area that was coherent and had shared aspirations and issues.
- 4.2 The proposed area covers all of Craven and South Lakeland districts, each made up of market towns and rural areas including the southern portions of two National Parks. The initial partnership is therefore the two district councils and the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District National Parks as well as relevant cultural organisations.
- 4.3 Our focus is the rural corridor linking Bolton Abbey (Craven) in the south and Grasmere (South Lakeland) in the north, including the market towns and rural hinterlands, extending into both the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District National Parks.
- 4.4 Our 'Great Place' includes the market towns of Skipton and Kendal and the area characterised by the Yorkshire Three Peaks, the Lune Valley and the approaches into the central Lake District.
- 4.5 Our aim is to attract younger families. We have aging populations and we need 44% more 16 – 34 year olds just to reach the national average. We need to attract and retain younger talented people, who will drive the area forward, rebalancing our population. Without change we will not be able to provide local services and businesses and will not attract talented people. We need to create a quality of life experience which competes with successful urban areas as we can no longer rely on the natural beauty and traditional industries alone. This grant will enable us to make the most of our cultural assets in a drive to attract young people to the district because of our schools, the safe and healthy environment, superfast Broadband and – with this funding – a vibrant cultural life, which together provide a critical mass of reasons why young people would choose to relocate here.
- 4.6 The outline application seeks £1,350,000 from the scheme and to secure this, partners need to find at least 10% match funding. Partners therefore need to find £150,000 over 3 years or £75,000 per local authority area.

## **5.0 Role of Craven District Council**

- 5.1 It has been agreed with SLDC that CDC will be the lead partner of the Great Place: Crossing the Watersheds project. One of the reasons for this is that SLDC has already recently received a significant amount of funding from the Arts Council/Heritage Lottery Fund. Because of this it was agreed that Craven as the lead organisation is more likely to be successful in its application for this grant. If the Great Place application is successful, subject to approval from this Committee, the Council will have Accountable Body status once the agreement with HLF has been signed.
- 5.2 Members need to be aware that by acting as Accountable Body for the funding package, the Council is responsible for accounting for the income and expenditure relating to items agreed as part of the funding package but, in common with other grant regimes, it also undertakes to repay to HLF, amounts of grant that are judged not to have been spent appropriately. The agreement between the Council and HLF sets out the circumstances where repayment of grant would be necessary.
- 5.3 In order to minimise the risk of the Council repaying grant, the Council will monitor and report on progress of the funding package on a regular basis as is currently the case with similar projects where the Council has been the Accountable Body.
- 5.4 In addition there will be a partnership agreement between Craven DC, South Lakeland DC, Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Lake District National Park setting out roles and responsibilities, the decision making process and the sharing of risk.

## **6.0 Implications**

### **6.1 Financial Implications**

£25,000 per year for three years will be earmarked from the Skipton Town Hall programming budget to provide match funding. It is expected that a significant part of the funding from the Great Place scheme will be directed at providing new and challenging programmes so this source of funding would be appropriate.

If Craven DC becomes the employer for any post the costs of any future redundancies will be included as part of the costs of the scheme.

### **6.2 Legal Implications**

The role of the Accountable Body is contained in the body of the report.

There will be a partnership agreement between SLDC, YDNP, LDNP and CDC setting out the membership, partnership structure, values and aims, decision making process, roles and responsibilities, risk sharing and review mechanisms. If the project application is successful the agreement will guide decision making and any conflict resolution through the life of the project.

### **6.3 Contribution to Corporate Priorities and the Community Strategy –**

A successful funding application would contribute to achieving the following corporate priorities:

- Enterprising Craven
- Resilient Communities

**7.0 Risk Management**

The level of risk for the project is very low as there are few ineligible areas of activity and there are no specific outputs such as jobs created. A project management group comprising of Craven DC, South Lakeland DC and the two National Parks will oversee the running of the project including expenditure and claims.

**8. Consultations with Others –**

Legal Team  
Finance Team

**9. Access to Information: Background Documents –None****10. Appendices – None****11. Author of the Report –**

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Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.