



COUNCIL MEETING

24 May 2018

GATESHEAD GOES LOCAL – COMMUNITY LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to grant delegated authority to the Service Director, Economic Development to confirm Community Led Local Development (CLLD) grants awards following approval by the Local Action Group (LAG).
2. The Council in 2017 secured £2.2m of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund (ESF) to support projects over a five year period to March 2022. This allows the LAG to award grants of between £10,000 and £100,000. Gateshead Council has agreed to be the Accountable Body for the project.
3. As Accountable Body the Council is acting as a vehicle to transfer funds directly to projects. Further delegation to the Service Director, Economic Development is considered appropriate for CLLD grant awards as it will allow the project to be more responsive to emerging opportunities. It is proposed that delegated authority be given following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy, following approval by the LAG.
4. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that Council amend the Constitution to include the proposed delegation to the Service Director, Economic Development to approve CLLD grant awards, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy.