

Mayoral Combined Authority Board

12 March 2024

Programme Approvals

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
Reason why exempt:	Not applicable
Purpose of this report:	Funding Decision
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	Yes

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

Gareth Sutton, Executive Director Resources & Investment

Report Author(s):

Sue Sykes, Assistant Director Funding, Monitoring & Reporting
Sue.Sykes@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report seeks progression of nine investment schemes subject to conditions set out in the Assurance Summaries, one change request, one grant acceptance and two proposal submissions and acceptance of any subsequent grant awards.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

This report is seeking approval for nine funded investments, and to enter into contracts for each investment proposal which will support the MCA's aspirations.

Recommendations

This report recommends that the Board approves:

- a. Progression of "North Bridge Connector" from BJC to full approval and award of £1.44m grant to City of Doncaster Council subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary A.
- b. Progression of "South West Bus Corridors" from FBC to full approval and award of £3.29m grant to Sheffield City Council subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary B.

- c. Progression of “Rotherham Childrens Capital of Culture” from BJC to full approval and award of £0.96m grant to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary C
- d. Progression of “Laurel Works Build to Rent (BTR) Scheme” to post-OBC in-principle approval for up-to £2m grant, subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary D and conclusion of assurance
- e. Progression of “Harmony Works” scheme to post-OBC in-principle approval for up-to £2m grant, subject to the set out in Assurance Summary E and conclusion of assurance
- f. Progression of “The Castle Project” scheme to post-OBC in-principle approval for up-to £5m grant, subject to the conclusion of assurance
- g. Progression of “Waverley Net Zero Carbon Pilot (Parcel 4C)” scheme to post-OBC in-principle approval for up-to £2.02m grant, subject to the conclusion of assurance
- h. Progression of ‘The Hive’ scheme to post-OBC in-principle approval for up to £1.6m grant, subject to the conclusion of assurance
- i. Delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with Mayor Ros Jones - in her position as the Portfolio Lead for Housing & Infrastructure - for consideration of the following:
 - “Progression of “Waverley 4D” housing scheme to post-OBC in-principle approval as detailed in 1.11.”
- j. Change request as detailed in 1.12.
- k. Acceptance of any subsequent grant award following the submission of a proposal for the Digital Futures Accelerator Fund to the Careers and Enterprise Company.
- l. Acceptance of any subsequent grant award following the submission of a proposal for the Active Travel England E-Cycle Pilot Fund
- m. Acceptance of £0.10m grant from the South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (SYLRF)
- n. Delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes above.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Programme Board	18 January 2024
Programme Board	01 February 2024
Programme Board	15 February 2024
Programme Board	29 February 2024

1. Background

1.1 This report seeks approval from the MCA Board for progression of nine investment schemes subject to conditions set out in the Assurance Summaries, one change request and two proposal submissions and acceptance of any subsequent grant awards.

1.2 Further details are provided on the proposal in the main body of the report.

1.3 **City Of Doncaster Council
 North Bridge Connector
 City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Programme
 Progression to Full Award**

This project seeks £1.44m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £1.44m at an intervention rate of 100%

The project concerns a key route into Doncaster City Centre that lies near numerous business and employment sites, education settings and public transport connections. The project will improve access to these key facilities using sustainable modes of transport encouraging mode shift to walking and cycling and reducing reliance on the car.

The main output of the project is a replacement to the existing staggered crossing on North Bridge Road across Church Way. The funding would enable City of Doncaster Council to upgrade the pedestrian and cycle crossing at North Bridge with an improved LTN 1/20 compliant crossing, dedicating segregated space for pedestrians and cycles on a more direct alignment. The changed crossing is designed to better integrate with the existing cycle infrastructure providing a more coherent and direct route for cyclists travelling to and from the city centre, as well as offering an easier, shorter and safer journey for pedestrians. Tactile paving, flush kerbs and an automatic counter would be installed/renewed as part of the works.

Alongside works to the crossing, segregated cycle facilities will be provided on the approach to the crossing, upgrading the existing facilities to LTN 1/20 compliance.

The project will unlock additional benefits with other SYMCA funded projects which have improved sections of the active travel network within Doncaster, such as along South Parade and Bennetthorpe in one direction and the Access to Bentley Station and Access to Adwick Station schemes in the other direction. The project will improve connectivity to these sections, extending available journey options and connections by active modes.

North Bridge Road contains a bus gate towards the city centre. Traffic simulation modelling shows that the improvements made through the project will also have a positive impact on bus journey times through more efficient use of the crossing. These time efficiencies will in turn support the reliability and attractiveness of public transport connections.

Appendix A provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

1.4

**Sheffield City Council
South West Bus Corridors
City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Programme
Progression to Full Award**

This project seeks £3.29m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £3.98m at an intervention rate of 82.6%

The South West Bus Corridors proposal aims to improve public transport connectivity along the Abbeydale Road and Ecclesall Road corridors in south west Sheffield both to and from the city centre.

The scheme will feature improvements to bus detection which will give buses priority at junctions to beat congestion, and the enhanced enforcement of illegal parking and loading in bus lanes with cameras, along with infrastructure

improvements at or near junctions and bus stops. This will provide increased accessibility to the city centre as well as to local centres and other destinations along the corridors from large residential areas including Millhouses, Brincliffe and Parkhead.



The corridor improvements will benefit bus users and operators through the implementation of a range of interventions including:

- Amendments to the length of bus lanes along Abbeydale Road and Ecclesall Road, parking restrictions and crossings.
- Traffic signal upgrades with buses given priority at junctions.
- Infrastructure improvements at or near junctions and bus stops.

The proposed scheme is intended to provide the opportunity for faster, more reliable, more attractive and more viable bus services on the Abbeydale Road and Ecclesall Road corridors between large residential areas and the city centre.

The funding for the project is currently capped at £3.29m subject to DfT approval of CRSTS rebaseline exercise.

Appendix B provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

1.5 **Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council**
Rotherham Children's Capital of Culture
Gainshare
Progression to Full Award

This project seeks £0.96m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £13.9m at an intervention rate of 6.9%. Funding is derived from the Gainshare revenue allocation earmarked to the delivery of Rotherham's Place Investment Plan.

The project will build upon the programme which was launched in 2022. The initiative will result in the creation of employment and training opportunities in the cultural and creative industries, and health and wellbeing programmes that support young people between now and 2025, before culminating in a year-long festival that will celebrate the talent and creativity of young people in Rotherham.

The SYMCA contribution will demonstrate to funders the commitment to the programme locally and will be used overall to unlock match funding from a range of sources.

Children's Capital of Culture will:

- Invest in new skills and talent development pathways for the creative and cultural sector;
- Grow the economic benefits of cultural and creative industries through the creation of new and imaginative events and experiences that provide a distinctive offer for children and young people across the borough and wider region;
- Improve the individual life chances of children and young people, changing perceptions about where they live, raising aspirations and building stronger communities;
- Create a national blueprint for high quality engagement and co-production with children and young people.

Appendix C provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

1.6

**Brickland Limited
Laurel Works
Brownfield Housing Fund Programme
In-Principle Approval**

This project seeks £4.34m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £52.34m at an intervention rate of 8.3%

The scheme is seeking a total of £4.34m of Brownfield Housing Fund towards an overall investment of £52.34m to deliver 268 residential apartments for private rent with the addition of 308 square metres (GIA) of ground floor commercial floorspace. This planned development is located at Wicker Island, just north of Sheffield City Centre.

Brickland Limited has owned the 0.33-ha Wicker Island site since 2019. It is a large riverside site located within the northern gateway area of the city, one of Sheffield's key strategic regeneration areas. A former, but now derelict, industrial area, the site has been of little economic/productive use for some time.

The scheme is described as being "shovel ready" with ground/enabling works complete, full planning consent in place, land under developer control and a developer willing to proceed with a preferred funding partner and construction contractor.

The business case states that £4.34m BHF funding is to be used to make a contribution towards the total scheme cost £52.34m. Those elements of the project work which fall within the eligibility criteria of the BHF are set out below:

- Facilitating works / abnormal development costs (majority of these already undertaken)

- Substructure works (includes piling and ground floor slab)
- External Works and Incoming Services
- Frame works
- Other general eligible construction costs as per the appended cost plan.

Appendix D provides a summary of the project assurance and recommendations to be addressed on submission of the FBC

1.7

**Sheffield City Council
Harmony Works
Gainshare
In-Principle Approval**

This project seeks up-to £2m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £15.78m at an intervention rate of 13%. Funding for this project is available from the Gainshare capital funding earmarked to the delivery of Sheffield's Place Investment Plan.

Harmony Works (HW) will transform the Grade II* listed Canada House (CH) in Castlegate - in the heart of Sheffield - into a home for inspirational music education and opportunity for young people across South Yorkshire.

The project will provide a much-needed, inclusive and accessible hub for music education that celebrates excellence and invites all young people to explore their musical potential. In doing so, it brings an outstanding Victorian heritage building back into public use for the first time in many years.

The project will conserve and protect the outstanding features of CH, whilst creating three new contrasting performance spaces, bringing much needed additional capacity to South Yorkshire, and helping to attract world class musicians.

A breakdown of activity costs MCA will fund is provided in and the list below outlines some more detail.

- Fees for Initial Works to ground floor - Design Fees, (architect, engineer, fire consultant)
- Construction costs for Initial Works to ground floor
- Insurance and Statutory Fees
- Surveys (e.g. party wall, heating assessment, Asbestos R+D)
- RIBA 4 Design Fees (Architect, Structural, Fire, Access and M+E Engineer, Project Manager, Quantity Surveyor)
- Project Team (Director, Fundraising, Finance Manager, Project officer)
- Capital Works
- Contingency

Appendix E provides a summary of the project assurance and recommendations to be addressed on submission of the FBC

1.8

**Sheffield City Council
The Castle Project
Gainshare**

In-Principle Approval

This project seeks up-to £5m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £20.86m at an intervention rate of 23.96%. Funding for this project is available from the Gainshare capital funding earmarked to the delivery of Sheffield's Place Investment Plan.

Castlegate is the birthplace of Sheffield. At the confluence of the River Sheaf and the River Don, this was once the heart of the city, and the site of the castle demolished in 1648. Once a thriving commercial area, it has since lost its identity and purpose.

This project will provide essential infrastructure and enabling work to unlock the regeneration of a large brownfield site and the economic regeneration of Castlegate quarter, while preserving and interpreting archaeology that is vital to a full understanding of Sheffield's history.

The Castle project will re-establish Castlegate as a thriving part of the city centre, seeking to address long-term decline and underinvestment in a prominent historic area in the heart of Sheffield and intending to transform a derelict 'no go' space into a 'must go' destination in what will become one of Sheffield's most exciting neighbourhoods.

In order to realise the long-term ambition of regeneration of the Castle Site, the following interventions are programmed to be completed as part of the enabling works and subsequent development:

- The de-culverting and re-naturalisation of the River Sheaf: the planned removal of existing concrete culvert structure will alleviate flood risks and avoid potential collapse due to the culvert falling into disrepair. This allows for the daylighting of the river and further naturalisation works to be completed to improve and encourage greater biodiversity in this part of the Sheaf. Enabling works to this end will also be complemented by accessible urban green space and public realm developments aiming to increase leisure footfall and dwell time in the Castlegate Quarter.
- Creation of several development-ready land plots: as part of the work to be undertaken with the assistance of SYMCA funding, pre-determined sections of the existing fallow land within the Castle Site are to be developed into six shovel-ready development plots in order to attract private investment.
- The activation of other plots by 'meanwhile uses' that encourage healthy lifestyles: surplus land will be opened and activated by meanwhile uses, offering a central location in which residents can focus on outdoor sport, physical activity and building healthy lifestyles.
- Revealing key areas of Castle ruins and putting these on public display through carefully designed public realm: MCA funding will help support the work required to reveal the ruins of Sheffield Castle through the creation of high quality public realm comprising of new accessible walking routes, hard and soft landscaping, events spaces, planting of trees and shrubs, sustainable urban drainage features and several development plots in a new landmark open space in the city centre. Priority will be given to the protection and usage of the site in a manner that preserves and appropriately interprets the archaeological remains of the castle.



Appendix F provides a summary of the project assurance and recommendations to be addressed on submission of the FBC

1.9 **Harworth Estates (Waverley Prince) Ltd
Waverley Net Zero Carbon Pilot (Parcel 4C)
Brownfield Housing Fund Programme
In-Principle Approval**

This project seeks £2.02m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £32.12m at an intervention rate of 6.3%.

Harworth Group is seeking £2.02m of Brownfield Housing Fund (BHF) capital grant funding in order to unlock the delivery of an 87-unit residential scheme as part of the next phase of our highly successful Waverley Regeneration Scheme in Rotherham at Junction 33 of the M1 Motorway. The site is owned entirely by Harworth Estates (Waverley Prince) Ltd.

The scheme will be a fully modular 100% “Whole Life-Cycle Net Zero Carbon” development and comprise the first part of Harworth’s first net zero plans as part of a pilot of 101 net zero homes including 14 homes elsewhere. Harworth is using the UK Green Building Council definitions for Net Zero in terms of Embodied Carbon and Operational Energy.

The scheme will enable Harworth to address identified viability issues to directly unlock the redevelopment of a complex brownfield site whilst also providing a differentiated housing product which will contribute to Harworth, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and SYMCA’s shared ambitions to be fully net zero carbon by 2040, directly in response to the declared Climate Emergency across the Borough.

The scheme aims to become a catalyst for future schemes of this nature across South Yorkshire. Please see the below scheme breakdown in terms of the proposed housing typologies. All units will be market sale homes and the estimated sales values reflect what has been achieved to date with an uplift to reflect a “green premium” associated with the net zero carbon nature of them.

Appendix G provides a summary of the project assurance and recommendations to be addressed on submission of the FBC.

1.10 **Grantside Ltd**
The Hive
Brownfield Housing Fund Programme
In Principle Approval

The project seeks £1.6m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £17.72m at an intervention rate of 8%.

Grantside Ltd is seeking £1.6m Brownfield Housing Fund (BHF) capital grant funding in order to unlock the delivery of a 5/6 storey co-living and co-working new build development in the Kelham Island district of Sheffield to the north of Sheffield City Centre.

The scheme will deliver 100 units for private rent and 5,252 sq ft of commercial/community floorspace and associated amenity space including a rooftop terrace and allotments.

The scheme is 'shovel ready' with full planning consent in place, land under developer control and ground/enabling works partially completed. The grant funding will be used towards the capital costs of construction.

Appendix H provides a summary of the project assurance and recommendations to be address on submission of the FBC

Delegated Approval

1.11 **Harworth Estates (Waverley Prince) Ltd**
Parcel 4D, Waverley – Affordable Housing-Led Scheme
Brownfield Housing Fund Programme

This project seeks £2.96m to contribute towards a total scheme cost of £38.47m at an intervention rate of 7.7%.

Harworth Group is seeking £2.96m of Brownfield Housing Fund (BHF) capital grant funding in order to unlock the delivery of a 177-unit affordable housing-led residential scheme as part of the next phase of the highly successful Waverley Regeneration Scheme at Junction 33 of the M1 Motorway.

Parcel 4D is owned by Harworth Group and is a critical, but nonetheless challenging, development parcel needed to diversify the housing tenures across the Waverley scheme and will provide much needed affordable homes to meet identified local demand.

The scheme will provide 64 market homes (36% of total) with the remainder of homes (113 units or 64% of the total) being affordable rent and shared ownership tenures with an aspiration to be low carbon in operation. The scheme will be

delivered by Harworth and will provide 177 new homes, comprising of 20 one bed homes, 71 two bed homes, 75 three bed homes and 11 four bed homes, with 64% of these (113 units) being affordable.

Change Control

1.12 Sheffield City Council Heart of the City Project Better Bus Area Funding

This scheme was originally approved and granted £6m by the MCA Board in 2021.

The scheme was to create three new spaces within Sheffield City Centre:

- 1) A landscaped pocket park on Block G including a cycle hub;
- 2) A vibrant small square on Carver Street with seating terraces for adjoining cafes and civic space; and,
- 3) Expansion and improvement of the area between the Peace Gardens and Town Hall, and the proposed Radisson Blu hotel on Pinstone Street.

Good progress has been made on this scheme with Pounds Park now complete and open for use. However, as with many schemes price inflation has led to a shortfall in funding to deliver the scheme in full.

To manage these issues a change control request is sought to allocate additional available funding and remove part of the project from the original funding agreement and move to other programmes.

This change control requests an additional £0.92m for residual work focussed on Rockingham Street over an extended area stretching up above Division Street to West Street within Sheffield City Centre. This works now includes changes to the traffic signals at the Rockingham Street/West Street junction. The additional funding for this element is available from legacy Better Bus Area funding previously earmarked to Sheffield.

Works and outputs on Pinstone Street are proposed to be removed from this funding agreement and included in Sheffield's project City Centre Cycling/Cross City Bus, the FBC for this project is currently expected to be submitted to the MCA in April 2024.

Submission of Funding Proposals

1.13 Careers and Enterprise Company Digital Futures Accelerator Fund Proposal Value - £0.13m

The Careers & Enterprise Company (CEC) is launching a new investment fund which aims to catalyse the take up of apprenticeship and technical education (ATE) pathways into digital jobs, prioritising socio-economically disadvantaged young people.

The Fund encourages innovative, place-based programmes that are informed by the results of a Careers Hub's Apprenticeship and Technical Education framework. By aligning data and results from the framework with local labour market information, Careers Hubs are able to precisely identify the specific barriers young people face in progressing into digital pathways and deliver activity to overcome these.

The fund covers the academic years 2024/25 and 2025/26 (September 2024 – August 2026), delivery will be via the Careers Hub which is funded separately from the Careers and Enterprise Company.

On 4th March 2024 SYMCA submitted a proposal to Careers and Enterprise Company worth £0.13m. Successful applicants are due to be informed in July 2024 with grant award to follow. The quantum awarded to SYMCA will be decided by the funder and funded in full – no SYMCA funding is required.

1.14 **Active Travel England E-Cycle Pilot Funding Proposal value - £0.5m**

Active Travel England (ATE) has invited local authorities participating in the current Department for Transport funded national e-cycle programme to submit proposals for a two-year funded e-cycle pilot programme.

The aim of 2023/24 and 2024/25 funding is to enable pilot local authorities to maximise e-cycling opportunities in their communities by embedding the benefits from the national programme and building on the programme's achievements.

Funding allocations should support development and delivery of longer-term local authority-led e-cycle initiatives, including purchase subsidies and targeted e-cycle share schemes. Revenue grant funding for 2023/24 is based on a fixed allocation of £250,000 per authority, with an additional indicative allocation of £250,000 per local authority for 2024/25.

Proposals must demonstrate how the following objectives would be achieved:

- Enable active travel by providing more e-cycling opportunities
- Increase e-cycling trips to meet ATE's 2030 aim² and beyond
- Build on lessons learned and partnerships/expertise developed from the Department for Transport-funded national e-cycle programme (also known as "Making Cycling E-asier")
- Ensure robust monitoring and evaluation to gather evidence to inform future e-cycle support activities

On 29th February 2024 SYMCA submitted a proposal worth £0.5m with the support of the Portfolio lead for Transport and the South Yorkshire Local Authorities. It is expected that the outcome of the submission will be determined in early March 2024 with funding payments expected to be made in late March 2024.

This report seeks approval to accept any funding should the submission be successful.

Grant Acceptance

1.14 South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum Multiagency Working Acceptance of £0.5m

The South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (SYLRF) has secured £0.10m of funding for a project to improve multiagency risk and vulnerability data sharing and visualisation before, during, and after multiagency emergencies, including emergency flood events.

SYMCA as part of the Connected by Water alliance and the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) propose to lead this project in achieving wider benefits and maximising multiagency working across the region.

2. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

2.1 Option 1

Approve all recommendations.

2.2 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Approval of the progression of the investment propositions will result in a commitment being made against the programme budget and continuation of activity.

2.3 Option 2

Reject some, or all, of the recommendations.

2.4 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

Rejection of the recommendations in this report would mean the region foregoing the forecast benefits arising from the investment and the delivery of the activity at risk.

2.5 Recommended Option

Option 1

3. Consultation on Proposal

3.1 Discussions for this proposal has continued with the Portfolio Leads and SYMCA business partners.

4. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

4.1 Subject to the approval of the recommendations and approval by the MCA, the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer will progress to enter into legal agreements for the schemes.

5. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

5.1 All proposals presented within this report can be fully funded from available resource.

6. Legal Implications and Advice

6.1 The legal implications of the proposal have been fully considered by a representative of the Monitoring Officer.

7. Human Resources Implications and Advice

7.1 None.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

8.1 Equality and diversity implications are taken into account as part of the proposal considerations

9. Climate Change Implications and Advice

9.1 Climate change implications are considered as part of the proposal considerations.

10. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

10.1 None

11. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

11.1 The approval provides positive opportunities to highlight the difference the MCA's investments will make to people and places across South Yorkshire and how Members are taking action to support the region's recovery from COVID.

List of Appendices Included

A	Assurance summary – North Bridge Connector
B	Assurance summary – South West Bus Corridors
C	Assurance summary – Rotherham Childrens Capital of Culture
D	Assurance summary – Laurel Works
E	Assurance summary – Harmony Works
F	Assurance summary – The Castle Project
G	Assurance summary – Waverley Net Zero Carbon Pilot (Parcel 4C)
H	Assurance summary – The Hive

Background Papers

None.