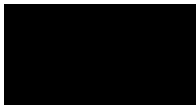


South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority
 Officer Scheme of Delegation
 Record of Officer Decision Form

(Regulation 7 of The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014)

Please send this completed form to: SYMCAmeetings@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

1	Subject of decision/report title:	Approval to accept DEFRA grant funding of £0.02m regarding the Biodiversity Net Gain programme
2	Decision Date:	26 th June 2024
3	Background/reason for decision/purpose of report:	<p>DEFRA is providing funding to help local planning authorities in England implement mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in the planning system. SYMCA has been allocated a grant of £26,807 to assist with the delivery of BNG implementation work carried out in 2024/25.</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain is an approach to development that ensures habitat for wildlife is left in a measurably better state than it was in prior to the development. This became mandatory under Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as inserted by Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021 in February 2024).</p> <p>The intention is to use the grant for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SYMCA seeking legal advice on behalf of the four Local Authorities (and SYMCA itself) to develop a common approach to entering either Section 106 agreements or Conservation Covenants with private landowners • To assess how SYMCA can use the funding to help deliver environmental priorities, such as tree planting, whilst meeting the legal requirement of BNG

		Grant acceptance is required by 28 th June, resulting in the acceptance of the grant award on behalf of the MCA Board, and inclusion in MCA papers thereafter.
4	Options considered:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the recommendation 2. Reject the recommendation
5	Decision:	Option 1 – Approve the recommendation
6	Background documents:	MCA paper
7	Type of decision Key/Non-Key:	Non-Key
8	Officer making decision: (Director or Statutory Officer)	Gareth Sutton – S73 Officer
9	Contact details (telephone number or email):	charli.taylor@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk
10	Does the decision maker have a conflict of interest?	No
11	Consultations (where appropriate):	
	i. If over £250k have you consulted Portfolio Lead Member?	i. NA
	ii. Other	ii. Discussions for this project has continued with the board during project development
12	Any Legal, Financial, or Equality Implications considered:	The project is presented with a proposed funding source
13	Have Finance Team confirmed budget availability	Yes
14	Signature (Stat Officer or Director) and Date:	 Gareth Sutton 26 June 2024

For Democratic Services Team use only:	
Date received by Governance Team:	26/06/2024
Processed by:	Ellen Hinsley
Dem Services Ref No:	2024-068