

PUBLICATION OF DECISION LIST NUMBER 13/22-23

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/23

Date Published: 19 August 2022

This document lists the Decisions that have been taken by the Council, which require publication in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000. The list covers Key, Non-Key, Council and Urgent Decisions. The list specifies those decisions, which are eligible for call-in and the date by which they must be called-in.

A valid request for call-in is one which is submitted (on the form provided) to the Governance and Scrutiny Team in writing within 5 working days of the date of publication of the decision by at least 7 Members of the Council.

Additional copies of the call-in request form are available from the Governance and Scrutiny Team.

If you have any queries or wish to obtain further report information or information on a decision, please contact democracy@enfield.gov.uk

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List Ref	Decision Made by	Date Decision came/ comes into effect	Part 1 or 2	Subject/Title of Report	Category of Decision	Affected Wards	Eligible for Call-In & Date Decision must be called in by (If Applicable)	Page No.			
1/13/22 -23	Doug Wilkinson (Director of Environment & Operational Services)	Monday 29 August 22	Part 1	Increasing Digital Infrastructure in Enfield – Optimised Spend of Grant Funding Secured in Partnership with Local London	KD 5456	All	Yes Friday 26 August 22	3			
DECISIONS											

For additional copies or further details please contact the Governance Team.

LIST REFERENCE: 1/13/22-23

SUBJECT TITLE OF THE REPORT:

INCREASING DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN ENFIELD – OPTIMISED SPEND OF GRANT FUNDING SECURED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL LONDON

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by decision	Decision taken by	Date Decision comes into effect	Interest declare d in respect of the Decisio n	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non- Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by
Part 1	All	Doug Wilkinson (Director of Environment & Operational Services)	Monday 29 August 22	None	KD 5456	Eduardo Gomes Principal Engineer, Redevelopment & Environmental Works, Place eduardo.gomes@enfield.gov.u k	Yes Friday 26 August 22

DECISION

AGREED subject to not being called in:

- 1. It is recommended that the Council execute the Flow Down Agreement between Enfield Council and London Borough of Bexley (Appendix 1)
- 2. It is recommended that approval is granted to spend the Local London Grant of £1,022,000.00 to deliver digital fibre enhancements.
- 3. LB Bexley have set up a Framework Agreement for the award of contracts relevant to the grant and it is recommended that authority be given to the Head of Highway Services to award call off contracts under this framework. Delegated authority is sought to award these call off contracts via the framework.
- 4. It is recommended that the approval of this operational report allows the Councils Legal officers to sign under seal the Flow Down Agreement to permit the release of grant monies to Enfield Council.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 1. Do nothing. In circumstances where the grant funding is not taken up the result will be the loss of opportunity to expand the Councils ducting/fibre network and to enhance digital connectivity to the wider public in those in areas where digital poverty is identified.
- 2. The capacity of the whole borough was considered and the decision to focus on the selected area as part of a sub-regional bid coordinated through Local London to secure investment in digital infrastructure represents optimum usage against grant conditions.
- 3. Other parts of the borough were considered for the scheme but given the relative lack of existing ducting networks and lack of connectivity to strategic industrial land and concentrations of social housing and public buildings they were discarded.

REASONS FOR PROPOSAL

- 1. The Enfield proposal was worked up by officers in the Place Department who were seeking to maximise the impact of any potential award by creating added value connectivity in the borough. This would be based on utilising our existing network of ducting, some of which already carries broadband fibre, and seeking to create linking points that could enhance the potential for digital services into some of our deprived wards and industrial centres, mainly in the east of the Borough.
- 2. Given the final allocation was less than bid for, officers reworked the bid to maximise the available resources. The proposal has earmarked up to 7km of new ducting to be laid in the borough. This will utilise up to 12 strategic sites belonging to the local authority from which connectivity can be enhanced for the surrounding communities. A map showing the intended deployment of the additional ducting in Enfield can be found at Appendix 2.
- 3. The revised Enfield proposal will allow for significant added value to our existing ducting network, strengthening our position when enhancing the availability of the highest quality broadband in the borough to those that at present have limited availability. This would be based on utilising our existing network of ducting, some of which already carries broadband fibre, and seeking to create linking points that could enhance the potential for services in some of our deprived wards, mainly in the east of the Borough.
- 4. The proposed configuration of extended ducting presents the optimal benefit to the residents of the borough. This is demonstrated through the number of public buildings that can be encompassed, the relative proximity of strategic industrial land that is presently not well served with digital connection and prevalence of social housing stock that means local people can potentially benefit.
- 5. It is the best fit when examining the eligibility criteria to receive the grant. It also allows us to potentially link into wider networks in Waltham Forest, Haringey and Hertfordshire in the future.
- 6. Given the nature of the ducting work it is recommended that the Place Department lead the project with support from colleagues in Commercial and Property Teams where appropriate.

BACKGROUND

Please note that a copy of the Part 1 report is available on the Council's democracy pages.

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