

## **Town centre fund – capital grant 2020/21 meeting - council executive 22 October 2020**

### **Summary of a Report by Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration**

The purpose of the report is to set out proposals for the delivery and operation of the Town Centre Capital Grant 2020/21 of £658,000 which has been allocated to the council from Scottish government. The recommendations are that the council executive:

1. agrees the list of eligible areas and allocation to each area.
2. Agrees the criteria for the assessment of projects.
3. Agrees that decisions on the applications are made as follows:
  - a. local area committees will consider applications from each community to the fund and have the power to award funding in full or in part as they see fit up to the amount allocated to that community.
  - b. After doing so, if there is a balance remaining of the aggregate amount allocated to the ward, local area committees will have the power to apply that balance to applications for the ward area which have not already been funded at all or fully.
  - c. After doing so if there is still a balance remaining, council executive will decide how and where all remaining balances from the local area committees should be spent across the whole Council area.

The grant is for capital expenditure with the aim of this additional fund to stimulate local construction activity and support local employment. The grant should fund a wide range of investments which deliver against the theme of the town centre first principle, the town centre action plan and more recently the place principle. The grant may be used to fund third-party capital expenditure in the current year. All grant expenditure must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2021. Expenditure is defined as “it is expected that work will be completed; or at least work or contracts signed or commenced within 2020/21. The grant is for capital expenditure which is additional to that which is already or would otherwise be allocated to the councils 2020/21 budget.

The grant allocation for Linlithgow is £40,551.