

**Report of Recreation Development Manager**

**Report to Chief Officer Parks and Countryside**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Subject: Temple Newsam HLF bid submission**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s): Temple Newsam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report outlines the prospect of a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) led bid to fund a restoration plan at Temple Newsam Estate, including three elements identified on the Leeds 'at risk' register.
2. The project will seek to focus on re-establishing the integrity of the Lancelot Brown landscape structure which would include conservation and restoration of historic features, improved visitor access, circulation and interpretation linking the house, park, farm and wider estate.
3. In February 2018 Executive Board provided approval for the Parks and Countryside service to submit a bid to the HLF and injected funding into the capital programme to support its development. Heritage specific landscape advice is needed to inform the bid to the HLF. Given restrictions in terms of timescale for bid submission, a waiver of contract procedure rule is requested to appoint a landscape heritage advisor without competition.

**Recommendations**

Chief Officer Parks and Countryside is requested to:

Waive contract procedure rules 3.1.6, 3.1.13, 8.1 & 8.2 in order to support the appointment of Southern Green without competition in the sum of £50,000. The contract shall commence on the 12th July 2018 and expire on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

## 1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report outlines the prospect of a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) led bid to restore key features at Temple Newsam Estate and requests that in light of grant submission deadline and time limitations that contract procedure rules be waived in order to allow the appointment of a heritage landscape advisor to support in developing the stage one bid.

## 2. Background information

- 2.1 Temple Newsam House is a truly impressive Tudor-Jacobean mansion famous as the birth place of Lord Darnley, notorious husband of Mary Queen of Scots. Whilst the House has benefitted from an HLF grant and been restored to its former glory the wider estate is also truly impressive and has a considerable amount to offer visitors of which there are around 2 million each year. There are a variety of rare breed animals at Home Farm, beautiful garden and woods to wander through as well as explore the bridle paths. The café has recently been refurbished and is part of the stable courtyard which acts as a focal point and includes a shop and visitor information. Temple Newsam Estate has held the prestigious and now international Green Flag Award since 2004 which recognises the presentation and management of the park along with the commitment to community involvement and work of volunteers at the estate.
- 2.2 Temple Newsam is an important visitor attraction not least because of the significance of a number of heritage assets which require restoration. Furthermore, the site has already undergone significant analysis and research in the form of a cultural landscape management plan. As indicated, the house has already benefitted from HLF funding, although this did not include any heritage features on the wider estate.
- 2.3 Potential Project for Temple Newsam would be well suited to a Heritage Grant. Temple Newsam Estate has around 600 hectares of grade II listed parkland, farmland and woodland, and provides the setting for the grade I listed Tudor Jacobean country house. The park is rich in history with parts of the landscape, such as Grim's Ditch, dating back to before 1066. The park was redesigned in the 18<sup>th</sup> century by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, the key features of which are a simple landscape structure in scale with the house and its topography creating spectacular views in and out of the estate.
- 2.4 This historic setting and design coupled with the need for restoration of key features alongside the impact of more recent activities such as open case mining provides an ideal opportunity to develop an HLF bid. A map illustrating potential heritage features is contained in Appendix One and the main features summarised in the following table.

Feature	Description
Fountain (on the Leeds 'at risk' register)	This Grade II listed fountain, made by Andre Handyside & Co in 1894 is of cast iron.

<b>Feature</b>	<b>Description</b>
Temple Newsam House Victorian Garden	An ornamental south garden was introduced between 1841 and 1922 and incorporates formal floral features. The aspiration would be to restore this garden to the 1900 design.
Little Temple (on the Leeds 'at risk' register)	This Grade II listed structure in a pseudo classical style was designed and built in the second half of the 18 <sup>th</sup> century as part of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's remodelling of the park.
Site entrance arrangements	The aspiration would be to re-establish the Capability Brown entrance from the North Lodges removing recent landscape features and developments. Inclusive within this would be a complete revision of access and circulation plans in line with the principle landscape restoration objective whilst enhancing the visitor offer.
Interpretation and site furniture upgrade	Although the site benefits from a joined up site furniture and interpretation management plan, much of the site is in need of refreshment and enhancement.
Avenue Bridge (on the Leeds 'at risk' register)	This Grade II listed bridge dates from 1714 and carries the Avenue over ponds. It was part of a 5 year landscaping scheme undertaken by William Etty of York which created the East Avenue approach with its long views to the house between trees and the ornamental ponds which were stocked with fish. The scheme represents an early phase of the taste for showing the natural beauty of landscapes, later developed by Capability Brown.
Lake landscaping and cascade	This project would constitute the culmination of a three phase project to de-silt the lakes. Such a scheme would significantly improve biodiversity in the lake and improve the landscape surround of this major park landscape feature.
Walled Garden	The Walled Garden was developed in the 1820's and was reputed to be the first site in the country to successfully grow a pineapple. The current configuration is the product of initial design input following the development of the site as a public park in the 1920's. Restoration could include work to reinstate the 1920's configuration, including Pergola, with a view to creating a focal point for national plant collections or the restoration of the initial walled garden.

2.5 The project will seek to focus on re-establishing the integrity of the Lancelot Brown landscape structure which would include conservation and restoration of historic features, improved visitor access, circulation and interpretation linking the house, park, farm and wider estate. Consideration will be given to future sustainability, security and maintenance through good design and planned community engagement.

### **3. Main Issues**

#### **3.1 Reason for contracts procedure rules waiver**

3.1.1 The Heritage Grants programme would be the most suitable grant programme for a project on the scale of that required at Temple Newsam with a minimum grant of

£100k up to a maximum of £5m. The grant is anticipated to be at the higher end of the spectrum and as this is likely to be more than £2m, a project enquiry has already been submitted to the local HLF office as is required under these circumstances. Applications go through a two-round process with the first round assessing whether the project is likely to be funded before more detailed proposals are drawn up. The deadline for round 1 submissions up to £5m is August 2018 so the application will be working to a tight timescale.

- 3.1.2 Given the restricted timescales, landscape specific heritage support is needed to bolster the ongoing development of existing built heritage condition surveys and documentation that is already in place.

### **3.2 Consequences if the proposed action is not approved**

- 3.2.1 In early 2019 the Heritage Lottery Fund will begin a new, five-year Strategic Funding Framework that sets out how it will distribute National Lottery good causes money to the heritage sector. Consequently no major grant awards will be issued in 2019 meaning bids must be submitted by August 2018 in order to be considered under the existing processes prior to them being reviewed. Failure to meet this deadline will mean that a bid for Temple Newsam will be delayed until at least 2020 and any successful outcome delayed until circa 2021.

### **3.3 Advertising**

- 3.3.1 Consideration was given to the YORconsult Framework. This framework expired on the 30th April 2018 so any appointment under the existing arrangement wasn't possible furthermore bespoke landscape heritage specific support wasn't available. Given the need for the prompt commencement of work soft market testing was undertaken to ascertain if support could be offered in the timescales inferred.

## **4. Corporate considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1.1 The Friends of Temple Newsam have been consulted on this proposal and are in support. Ward members have been consulted and are in support of the need to develop a project to deliver the restoration goals. A broader consultation involving a range of stakeholders and the public will be undertaken as the project develops.

### **4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

- 4.2.1 An equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening has been completed and is attached as an appendix to this report.

### **4.3 Council policies and best council plan**

- 4.3.1 The proposals in this report support the Vision for Leeds 2011 to 2030 and in particular the aspiration that 'there are high quality buildings, places and green spaces, which are clean, looked after, and respect the city's heritage, including buildings, parks and the history of our communities' as part of the overall aim that 'all Leeds' communities will be successful'. The proposals contribute to the Best Council Plan outcomes to 'enjoy happy, healthy, active lives', and 'enjoy greater access to green spaces, leisure and the arts' and also priority 20 'enhancing the quality of our public realm and green spaces'.

#### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 The Heritage Grants programme has a minimum grant of £100k up to a maximum of £5m. The grant is anticipated to be at the higher end of the spectrum and the deadline for round 1 submissions up to £5m is August 2018 so the application will be working to a tight timescale. Applications go through a two-round process with the first round assessing whether the project is likely to be funded before more detailed proposals are drawn up. Funding can be requested to develop the project in the first round.
- 4.4.2 For grants greater than £1m, the match funding contribution must be at least 10% of the costs of the development phase and 10% of the costs of the delivery phase. In the short term there is a cost associated with developing a bid. It is therefore proposed that £100k is identified from the capital programme to support the development of the bid as outlined in the capital funding and cash flow summary below. For more substantial match funding, assets within the vicinity of the estate could be considered for sale with the capital receipt as a contribution.
- 4.4.3 The decision has no material effect on revenue.

#### **4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in**

- 4.5.1 Any successful funding application will be subject to a legal agreement with the Heritage Lottery Fund. There are no issues with access to information in respect of this report. The decision is not subject to call in.

#### **4.6 Risk management**

- 4.6.1 The fountain and Little Temple are on the Leeds heritage 'at risk' register. A funding application under the Heritage Lottery Fund represents a good opportunity to put in place a restoration plan for not only 'at risk' heritage features but to consider broader heritage issues to deliver a cohesive and engaging strategy to secure the sustainable future of the historic park infrastructure.

### **5. Conclusions**

- 5.1 Temple Newsam Estate is a park that is steeped in history with a Lancelot 'Capability' Brown designed landscape and grade I listed Tudor Jacobean mansion at the core. A Heritage Grant led bid is an opportunity to implement a restoration plan to improve the condition of heritage features and engage the community to deliver a sustainable future for the park.

### **6. Recommendations**

Chief Officer Parks and Countryside is requested to:

Waive contract procedure rules 3.1.6, 3.1.13, 8.1 & 8.2 in order to support the appointment of Southern Green without competition in the sum of £50,000. The contract shall commence on the 12th July 2018 and expire on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

## **7. Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 None.

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.



**Appendix One**

