



The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the latest information available on developments in the Town Council's successful application to the Department for Communities & Local Government's (DCLG) Our Place! programme.

NO. DETAIL

1) INTRODUCTION

- a) In line with the Town Council's resolution in Minute 20/14 of its meeting of 10 February 2014 authorising *the Town Clerk, working with staff colleagues, to complete and submit an application to the Department for Communities and Local Government's Our Place! programme* an application was submitted on Friday 14 February.
 - b) Acceptance of the application was notified to the Town Council by email from Locality, the organisation commissioned by the DCLG to deliver the programme, on 25 February.
 - c) The application included a request for the maximum grant available at this stage of £3,000 and for the free direct support in the form of a Relationship Manager.
 - d) The grant is to fund a series of meetings to be held by the end of March with the major local stakeholders for the delivery of the programme: the town's communities, agencies and partners delivering services in the town and the private sector.
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2) RELATIONSHIP MANAGER

- a) The Relationship Manager commissioned by Locality to work with the Town Council is David Newton, an Island Resident and a partner in Corporate Impact, an impact management firm specialising in using stakeholder engagement to help organisations understand, manage, and improve their social, environmental, and economic impact.
 - b) He has already agreed with us the programme of meetings at which he will provide information on the Our Place! model and expectations from the programme over the next 12 months with time for discussions about future involvement with it.
 - c) These meetings are:
 - o 11 March at 3.30pm with the staff team
 - o 17 March at 6pm with Town Councillors
 - o 24 March at 8.30am with private sector representatives
 - o 24 March at 12.30pm with staff from agencies and partners
 - o 24 March at 6pm with the town's communities
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3) FUNDING

These meetings are fully funded from the Getting Started Grant that has already been paid into the Town Council's account.

4) PROGRESS

- a) The next stage is the production of a Development Plan for Ventnor's route to the completion of an Operational Plan for the town's future.
 - b) The Development Plan has to be submitted to Locality by 9 May this year and the quality of that will be the basis of the DCLG's judgement about which of the areas selected for this first stage of the project will proceed with the programme in the production of Operational Plans by March next year and have access to the significant funding available for the work involved in its production.
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5) **RECOMMENDATION**

- a) The potential of the project and its short time scale means that it will benefit from the involvement of Members on the informal basis that the Town Councils Working Groups are able to operate.
 - b) The Community Development Working Group and the meeting of that Group on Tuesday 4 March indicated its willingness to include responsibility for working with staff on the Our Place! project within its current remit. It also proposed that Councillor Ken Knapman be invited to join the Group and he is willing to do so.
 - c) The Town Council is therefore recommended to authorise the Community Development Working Group to take on responsibility for engagement with staff in the development of the Our Place! programme and to appoint Councillor Ken Knapman as an additional member of the Group.
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