

**REPORT TO:** Executive Board

**DATE:** 17 November 2016

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Physical Environment

**SUBJECT:** Management Board - Environmental Fund - Runcorn Energy from Waste

**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek delegated authority for determining future requests for funding made to the Management Board set up to administer the Runcorn Energy from Waste Environmental Fund and to endorse their first set of proposals.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Executive Board approves:

### 1) The initial projects, outlined below, that have been supported by the Management Board.

- £160,000 – towards improvements at Runcorn Hill Park;
- £2,500 – for clearance of Dukesfield garage on behalf of the Runcorn Locks restoration society;
- £193,746 – 5 Year contribution towards the community payback team to provide additional cleaning or environmental maintenance and support community clean-up initiatives;
- £12,000 – to close the layby on the Weston Point Expressway following complaints from residents;
- £24,000 – 2 year programme to support the Community Garden in Runcorn Town Centre;
- £7,239.60 – the creation of a running/ walking route around Runcorn Hill Park, this includes boards and signing; and
- £27,600 – Air Quality Monitoring for a 12 month period.

### 2) That authority is delegated to the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with members of the Management Board, to authorise

**future expenditure; and**

**3) Decisions made via this delegation be published in the “Miscellaneous Issues” report contained in future Development Control Committee agendas.**

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Planning permission for the Runcorn Energy From Waste Plant was granted in September 2008. The Plant is subject to a legal agreement entered into under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 3.2 The legal agreement contains a provision that the owner of the Plant agrees to pay the Council an annual lump sum payment for every tonne of fuel received and processed.
- 3.3 The legal agreement states “that the lump sum payments shall be used by the Council to fund environmental matters as may be specified from time to time by the Council **within the Borough of Halton for the benefit of its residents generally** and which may include measures to improve public transport, highway network improvements, travel plan monitoring, waste recycling and wider community improvements such as landscaping and nature conservation measures.”
- 3.4 The legal agreement also states “that the Council will convene a management board, which shall include three elected members, to be charged with the task of identifying environmental matters proposed within the Borough of Halton”.
- 3.5 The Management Board was constituted by the Executive Board at its meeting on the 3 September 2015 and consists of the Executive Board Member Physical Environment, the Executive Board Member Resources and the Chair of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board.
- 3.6 The Management Board has met on two occasions so far and the purpose of this report is to:–
  1. Seek Executive Board’s endorsement of the initial seven projects supported by the Board ;
  2. Streamline the process to provide for future schemes to be approved by the Operational Director Policy, Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Management Board members ;and
  3. Agree that future decisions taken using this delegated authority be published in the Miscellaneous Items report on the agenda of the Development Control Committee.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no policy implications.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Council will receive an annual lump sum for every tonne of fuel received (£0.60 index linked total tonnage 850,000 tonnes )

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

None.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

None.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Appropriate arrangements need to be put in place to comply with the legal obligations contained within the Section 106 agreement mentioned earlier in this report.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

9.1	Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
	Legal agreement	Municipal Building Widnes	Andrew Plant Principal Officer Development Control
	Funding requests	Municipal Building Widnes	Andrew Plant Principal Officer Development Control