

LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE - LODGE PARK PROPOSAL

Summary: To review, and if in agreement approve, a project proposal from the National Trust (Lodge Park) be taken forward for submission.

Recommendation: That the proposal be approved.

Officer Ref: Simon Smith Development and Special Projects Officer

Background

The Landscape Enhancement Initiative (LEI)

1. This is a scheme run by National Grid to mitigate the impact of their pylon lines within protected landscapes. Further details can be found on their website; <http://lei.nationalgrid.com/>
2. They will only accept applications from and distribute funds to the protected landscape teams themselves. We have been engaging with this scheme by issuing calls for projects and working with selected delivery partners to take projects forward. We currently have 3 projects at 2 stages within the schemes approval processes. These are detailed in the projects update within agenda item 20.

The Lodge Park Proposal

3. The National Trust first proposed this project in response to a call for projects issued in June 2019. It was not selected at that point but they were told that they were “first reserve” should more funding become available. We discussed their proposal at the next “window” (an LEI term for round) in January 2020 and they decided that they would prefer to bring it forward to the expected June 2020 window. This should allow them to access more funds as it will be part of a new funding cycle and we had already tied up most of our existing allocation with previous projects. The proposal is detailed in **Appendices B to B5**.

The Project Proposal Template

5. The pros and cons of taking this project forward are explored through the Board’s project proposal template **Appendix A**. This template and method of seeking project approval was approved by the Executive Committee in September 2019.

Supporting Paper(s)

Appendix A - Lodge Park Project Proposal Template

Appendix B - Lodge Park LEI EOI

Appendix B1 - Bridgeman Restoration Location

Appendix B2 - Proximity to the Power Line

Appendix B3 - Restoration replanting and management Master Plan

Appendix B4 - Bridgeman Restoration Project Features

Appendix B5 - View of pylons and power lines from site