



BRECKLAND COUNCIL

DELEGATED DECISION RECORD

This records a key or other decision taken by an Executive Member, the Cabinet or Cabinet Sub-Committee in accordance with the Council's scheme of Delegations.

Unless the Leader and the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission certify that the matter is so urgent that the normal five-day scrutiny delay on action should not apply, then this decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in under the call-in procedures as set out in Section D of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

Portfolio/Cabinet	Leader of the Council
Report Title (& Reference No.)	Norfolk Strategic Fund: Reference: D47/20
Summary Background	Norfolk Strategic Fund
Author/Contact Officer	Andrew Holdsworth, Inward Investment Manager (andrew.holdsworth@breckland.gov.uk)
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Urgent?	Yes
Key Decision?	Yes
In Key Decision Plan?	No
Date Decision Taken	Tuesday, 27 October 2020
Date Published	Tuesday, 27 October 2020
Call-In Expiry	N/A
Exempt Information?	N/A
Decision (Action Agreed)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To recommend to Council that Breckland accepts £583,572 of grant funding from the Norfolk Strategic Fund (Rule 3.4.4(h) of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules currently requires full Council approval for receipt and spend of grants over £100,000). To enable programmes in support of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital enablement of High Street businesses in Breckland • Master Planning around Snetterton Heath

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Business Start-Up scheme targeting those who have been impacted by Covid-19 • A business support programme run by the Cambridge to Norwich Tech Corridor. <p>2. That implementation of the projects be delegated to the Council's Inward Investment Manager, in Consultation with the Leader, in line with the approach set out in Appendix A attached to this report.</p>
Reasons(s)	<p>To enable Breckland to benefit from resources available and invest in key activity to support economic resilience and recovery in the context of Covid-19.</p> <p>The Norfolk Strategic Fund represents a significant opportunity to draw down external grant funding to support local priorities.</p> <p>The Projects and Programmes of activity which Breckland has secured support to fund represent key requirements and opportunities for the economic response to Covid-19. They will enable Breckland to be more resilient, and better placed to grow back stronger. The timing of these projects are crucial, given the move away from Furlough and the added risk to local employment rates.</p> <p>The matter must be referred to full Council for approval in compliance with Rule 3.4.4(h) of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules which currently requires full Council approval for receipt and spend of grants over £100,000.</p>
Options	<p>Do nothing – do not accept the grant offer from the NSF. This option is not recommended as Breckland would miss out on a key strategic enabler and tool to help respond to the challenges of Covid-19.</p> <p>Fund the Programmes via Breckland Council resources. This option is not recommended given the activity is additional to that contained within the existing budget and would create further pressures to be managed.</p>
Further Information	<p>See Delegated Decision Form. Email authorisations available on request.</p>