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	<b>MSDC COUNCIL</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>THURSDAY, 25 JANUARY 2024 5.30 PM</b>
<b>VENUE:</b>	<b>KING EDMUND CHAMBER, ENDEAVOUR HOUSE, 8 RUSSELL ROAD, IPSWICH</b>

For consideration at the meeting on Thursday, 25 JANUARY 2024, the following additional or updated papers that were unavailable when the Agenda was printed.

## TABLED PAPERS

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5	<b>LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	3 - 4
15	<b>MC/23/37 SKILLS &amp; INNOVATION CENTRE ON GATEWAY 14</b>	5 - 6
	Re-numbered Recommendations attached.	
21b	<b>TO CONSIDER THE MOTION ON NOTICE RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR WELLER</b>	
	1) This Council recognises the excellent response to floods associated with Storms Babet, Ciaran and Henk within our communities. Only collaborative efforts of communities and statutory agencies provide immediate interventions to critical and widespread incidents such as those experienced in recent months. Rectifying longer term disruption to residents and businesses must be a shared responsibility of this Council and partner agencies.	
	2) That the Chair on behalf of the Council be requested to write to all parish councils to call on them to assess flood risk in their communities and develop a local flood resilience plan supported by professional expertise with assistance from the Council as necessary, and that;	
	3) The Council calls on Suffolk County Council and the Environment Agency to accelerate the recovery phase of repairs and urgently addressing the infrastructure maintenance backlog.	

- 4) Concurrent with the above, the Council calls on Suffolk County Council, DEFRA, the Environment Agency and Natural England to focus attention on both natural flood alleviation measures and structural remedial activity to mitigate future risk of flooding to property and essential infrastructure. These approaches should be managed and a balance struck to ensure maximisation of environmental benefit and limitation of carbon intensive solutions (e.g. mechanical flood defences) to only those areas where the former is impractical or ineffective.
- 5) It will be vital to bring together technical expertise (hydrology and ecology) along with local knowledge of landowners and their representative bodies (e.g. National Farmers Union, Country Landowners Association and Nature Friendly Farming Network) and third sector partners (e.g. The Pickerel Project and River Waveney Trust).

**Proposer: Cllr Tim Weller**  
**Seconder: Cllr Andrew Mellen**

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# Agenda Item 5

**MSDC COUNCIL – 25 JANUARY 2024**

## **ITEM 5 – LEADER’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **1. Update on Government payments after Storm Babet**

It is three months since Storm Babet had a devastating impact on our communities. With several storms and heavy rainfall events since, for many residents and businesses the recovery is still ongoing.

Following the storm, the Government announced flooded households could apply for up to £500 to help with costs, and businesses could apply for up to £2,500. I am happy to be able to update councillors today, and I can confirm that all these grants have now been paid out. There are more than 300 households and nearly 40 businesses who have received the recovery funding.

Our officers worked to get these grants to those impacted as quickly as possible, working closely with Suffolk County Council as the lead local flood authority. I would like to thank everyone involved in this process.

Debenham was one of the worst affected communities in Suffolk, so I am very pleased that tomorrow a flood forum will be held in the Debenham Community Centre, where residents will be able to hear from, and speak to, the Environment Agency, Suffolk County Council, our officers and others. I think this will be a very useful event, I am planning to attend to see how it goes, and I am grateful to Councillor Davies as the ward councillor for Debenham for making this event happen.

### **2. Living Well in Winter grants**

I am pleased to report Mid Suffolk has provided grants under the ‘Living Well in Winter’ scheme to 14 projects in the district.

The grant was introduced last year to support VCFSE organisations (Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprises) in providing new accessible spaces and activities, or to expand upon existing projects, in order to provide warm spaces and help tackle social isolation.

I’d like to thank all of the people who make projects like these happen in our communities. We hope that this extra funding will go a long way to supporting the wellbeing of residents during the colder months and help people to forge new connections within their communities.

### **3. Tribute to Charlie Flatman**

Finally, I was sorry to learn of the death of Charles Flatman, who served as ward councillor for Eye between 1993 and his retirement in 2017, but represented the town at either town, district or county level for a total of 43 years.

He sat on various committees over the years, including environmental health, housing and local economy committees. During his tenure he was also heavily involved in bringing forward Eye Community Centre, working with the town's cricket club, and the reopening of the Queen's Head pub.

Charlie served his community with dedication and distinction, and I am sure all members will join me in sending our condolences to his family and friends.

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# Agenda Item 15

MSDC COUNCIL – 25 JANUARY 2024

## ITEM 15 – SKILLS & INNOVATION CENTRE ON GATEWAY 14

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

**3.1 That Council approve the addition of this project to the Capital Programme as outlined in the recommended funding strategy including the virement of the Gateway 14 Capital budget of £10.75m and the use of earmarked reserves or Pot B retained business rates to finance this.**

**3.2 To note that Cabinet endorsed the Full Business Case (FBC) attached as Appendix A (confidential).**

**3.3 To note that Cabinet approved the full delivery of the project as outlined in the FBC for an approximate 35,690 sq ft. Skills and Innovation Centre on Gateway 14 at Stowmarket up to a maximum total cost envelope of £18.75m.**

**3.4 To note that Cabinet approved the recommended funding strategy detailed in Appendix D (confidential) as the Cabinet's preferred method of delivering the project, SUBJECT TO the satisfactory completion of all related legal, financial, cost and valuation advice and contractual agreements, full access to Freeport seed fund capital payment and full access to the required level of Pot B retained business rates generated on the Gateway 14 site as part of Freeport agreements (as forecast in the recommended funding strategy attached as Appendix D - confidential).**

**3.5 To note that Cabinet agreed delegated authority for completion of all necessary matters and agreements pursuant to the approval of recommendation 3.4 to the Council's Director for Economic Growth and Climate Change and Section 151 Officer/Director for Corporate Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council.**

**This requires that all 'subject to' elements within 3.4 are met.**

**3.6 To note that Cabinet authorised the forward funding of next stage technical design, planning and related preparatory works, up to a total value of £150k, from the Gateway 14 capital budget.**

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